A CENTENNIAL HISTORY of AKRON

1825 1925

Greene County District Library (Ohio)
0 53 85 0364001 2

OHIOANA·LIBRARY

COLUMBUS, OHIO
THE MARTHA KINNEY COOPER COLLECTION

No. _____

PRESENTED BY

Madge A. Vaughan
Akron Ohio

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2025

https://archive.org/details/historyofakron0000jame

AA 933

Greene Co. Room 977.1 Summit
1m

A Centennial history of
Akron, 1825-1925

A Centennial History *of* Akron

1825 1925

Published under auspices of The General Committee of The City's First Centennial Celebration, July 19-23, 1925, and the editorial direction of the Historical Committee, Oscar E. Olin, LL.D., Mrs. J. M. (Ada E.) Allen and Edwin W. Brouse; Managing Editor, James A. Braden.

Copyright 1925 by
The Summit County Historical Society
Fetzer Outline Also Copyright 1925 by Beacon Journal Co.

977.136
B728c

To true men and noble women the fruits of whose worthy sowing are the heritage of our generation, in trust for those that follow, this book is dedicated.

A CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF AKRON

PART I.

AN OUTLINE OF THE CITY'S HISTORY

By Herman Fetzer

Chapter		Page
I.	Before the White Man Came	1
II.	The Eries	4
III.	After the Eries	7
IV.	The Western Reserve	11
V.	The First Decade of the Nineteenth Century	14
VI.	Pioneer Life	18
VII.	Indians and Indian Fighters	22
VIII.	The Third Decade of the 19th Century	28
IX.	The Opening of the Canal	33
X.	The New Akron	37
XI.	The Second Akron	40
XII.	The Middle Thirties	45
XIII.	The First Panic	51
XIV.	The Fabulous Forties	58
XV.	The P. & O. Canal	65
XVI.	The Millerites	69
XVII.	Other Events of the Forties	74
XVIII.	The Days of Gold	80
XIX.	The Later Fifties	85
XX.	The Sixties	89
XXI.	The Seventies	93
XXII.	The Eighties	98
XXIII.	The Nineties	103
XXIV.	The New Century	109
XXV.	The War and After	117

PART II.
OUR NEXT DOOR NEIGHBORS

Page

Cuyahoga Falls and Silver Lake 123
Orlando Wilcox

Barberton and Kenmore 141
Wm. A. Johnston

PART III.
INDIVIDUAL SURVEYS OF AKRON'S MANY ACTIVITIES

Municipal Government and Works 186
Vincent S. Stevens

Environs and Landmarks 194
Mary Paul

Yesterdays with Akron Doctors 203
Dr. W. S. Chase

Newspapers, Publishers, Printers 224
James A. Braden

Buckeye and Empire Days 246
Karl Kendig

Akron's Schools 256
Elizabeth A. Thompson and Susannah C. Cole

Akron's Churches 278
Rev. Geo. Parkin Atwater Litt. D.

Cereal Mills and Millers 294
Carl D. Sheppard

Clay Products 303
H. Karl Butler

Rubber 313
R. C. Busbey

Akron's Contribution to Dental Surgery 346
Dr. Herbert W. Barton

Music, Art and Books 352
Dean A. I. Spanton

Amusements and Meeting Places 368
Laurine Wanamaker Schwan

Fraternal and Civic Organizations 388
Almon B. Cannon

Page
Welfare Work in Akron 403
Wm. E. Young
Yesterdays Around the City Hall 418
Edward S. Harter
Banks and Bankers 427
Harry S. Quine
Stores and Merchants 442
John A. Botzum
General Industries 453
George W. Sherman
Transportation 466
James V. Blake
Mails, Wires and Wireless 476
Henry M. Hagelbarger
Law and Lawyers 490
John C. Frank
Akron in State and Nation 510
Hugh Allen
Woman's Work 518
Jane Bates Bowman and Mrs. Ada E. Allen
Sports and Athletics 527
George M. Myers
Geology of Akron and Vicinity 556
Walter Frye
Akron and National Defense 567
Jesse P. Dice, Lt. Col. F A Res.
The Coming of the Automobile 610
Herbert A. Townsley
Territorial Expansion 623
Claude K. Traxler
The Forward March of Building 630
Philip P. Gott
Travel and Adventure 640
Edwin W. Brouse
The Sources of History 652
Oscar E. Olin, LL.D.
The Centennial Celebration 655
Mayor D. C. Rybolt

DR. CROSBY

JUDGE LEICESTER KING

GEN. SIMON PERKINS

MAJOR MINER SPICER.

CHARLES W. BROWN.

Representative Pioneers

FOREWORD

"Not to know what happened before we were born is always to remain a child."

—Sir Isaac Newton.

It is memory that gives continuity to life, and history is a kind of crystallized memory.

History is then the great background to all present life, and it is beautiful or majestic or tragic, according as men and nations have acted their parts in the interplay of forces that we call civilization.

Time is continuous and every "now" is the outgrowth of "then." Every condition or event or result has its causes in days gone by. There was and is a reason why any nation has its present form of government, why any city was placed where it is, why any organization has achieved success; and this can be understood only as we know the past.

The past not only gives meaning to the present, but is the prophecy of the future. There are no breaks in the line of development, and what the future will be depends upon the present and its past. History then has a double importance.

As Akron rounds out a hundred years of continuous and consistent growth, it is well that we pause to look back over the years and the road by which we have come.

When Akron was founded Mexico included Texas and Colorado, and all the western and southwestern part of what is now the United States. Our newly acquired Louisiana purchase had barely been explored. Slavery was the industrial system of half the country. There was not a railroad in all our borders. Canals were to be the great arteries of commerce, and the stage coach the swiftest vehicle ever to be invented.

We have a right to be proud of our achievements;—our expansion in population and boundaries—our development of great industries—the growth of financial and civic and cultural centers—the stretching out of lines of commerce that now touch all the world—the presence in our midst of men who in all these lines are of national and international influence.

History has pathos, too, as well as pride. Here and there are crumbling ruins around which hang many Indian summer fancies. Huge blocks of steel and stone have risen where once was school or home or playground. The sturdy men and women who made our inheritance are not with us in our pageants. On the marbles in our cemeteries is carved the silent roll of pioneers; and to the grey-haired veterans among us, almost every street is an "avenue of memories."

All this is in our history and in the thoughts of men. But it cannot all be set down in the present book. Our space and our time both are limited. Out of the myriad topics that might be treated we have had to select a few and to choose as that few those which would best suggest the outline of our growth.

The limits of each topic have been rigidly fixed, and those who have written the chapters have worked under that serious handicap. And they ask you to look at this outline sketch of Akron's story as the birdman sees the landscape,—a mountain range,—a plain,—a river,—a little sunshine here—a shadow there—all to be connected and filled in by the knowledge or the imagination of the beholder.

But we earnestly hope that this volume may stimulate an interest in our city's growth and a determination that we, too, shall do something for Akron's welfare that shall be worthy of memory in the hundred years to come.

OSCAR E. OLIN.

CHAPTER I

Before The White Man Came

THE canoe was heavy. Crow-Flying-High, newly initiated into the manhood of his tribe, had flung it lightly upon his back after he had deftly beached it on the shallow shores of the beloved Cuyahoga river.

But the climbing of hills and the walking of miles had added ounce by ounce to its seeming weight, until now, at the brow of another hill, he was glad that his elder brother grunted a suggestion for resting. It would not have been seemly for the suggestion to come from the lips of Crow-Flying-High.

Having let down the canoe, Crow-Flying-High straightened his back, in the small of which was the seat of his greatest weariness. Savoring deeply of the sweet sensation of relief, he stretched his arms and looked across the valley before him.

His feet were in the spot which was destined to be consecrated to the memory of a great lover of liberty —a man who, many years after, was to strike the first blow in what was to be a great war; greater than any which Crow-Flying-High could imagine. A gaunt, bearded man, it was to be; a man with dark, burning eyes and known by the ordinary name of John Brown —a name that, after his death, would never seem common again.

Crow-Flying-High did not know this. But he saw that the country about him was beautiful. It was a hilly section, and the hills were well covered with timber. Here and there a few rocks gleamed in the openings of the timber. Before his eyes, between fine

rows of hills, was a flat basin of land, which the waters loosened by the thawing of a retreating glacier had worn and flattened.

This was the immediate prospect. Beyond this, as he knew, were more hills—taller hills and more heavily wooded. The Cuyahoga flowed among them enriched by the tribute of its smaller son.

He knew that scattered around him were more lakes than he could count on both his hands ten times over; more than the number of days in three cycles of the moon. In these lakes were many fat fish, easy of capture and good to be eaten.

On the hills were many kinds of trees. There were oaks and whitewoods, and great groves of chestnuts. There were hickories, beech, maple, basswood, sumach, white ash, slippery elm, pepperidge, black walnut, butternut, wild cherry, wild juniper, hemlock, buckeye, dogwood, ironwood, sassafras, black ash, tamarack, pine, birch and sycamore. They were to be valued, every one of them.

The slippery elm gave the red man his ropes and a medicine which he prized. The sassafras, dogwood and wild cherry were equally useful to the herbalist of the tribe.

Trees, bushes and vines produced the acorn, the hickory nut, the chestnut, the butternut and the hazelnut; the wild-cherry, the plum, the juniper berry, the wild crabapple, the haw, the huckleberry, blackberry, raspberry, gooseberry, serviceberry, currant, cranberry, strawberry, dewberry and the wild grape.

Among the roots of the forest grew many plants, some of which were natives of the regions beyond the Great Lakes. The seeds had been brought here by the glacier, and they had done their best to flourish in the foreign soil and climate.

The buffalo and elk, which had once been plentiful in the very forests through which the path of the portage led, were scarce in those days. The buffalo had taken itself toward the prairie, and the elk had gone to the pine forests.

But the bear and the deer were plentiful, and there was abundance of panther, wild-cat, wolf, fox, marten, otter, muskrat, beaver, polecat, groundhog, opossum, mink, coon, rabbit, squirrel, weasel and porcupine. In the air were bald eagles and grey eagles, hen hawks, fishhawks, pigeon hawks, shrikes, screech owls, loons, shitepokes, cranes, crows, buzzards, swans, wild geese, turkeys, black ducks, mallards, wood ducks, jacksnipes, sandsnipes, pheasants, quail, woodcock, rail, pigeon and a great variety of songbirds.

The day was to come when Ferdinand Schumacher, the dynast of cereals, fell under the illusion that English sparrows were more useful in exterminating bugs than they were destructive in eating the grain, and the bird life of the county was to be predominated by the imported little nuisances. The "oat meal king" to be was not alone in this.

In the hills at which Crow-Flying-High was gazing the while he rested his back were immense fortunes in clay. Beneath the marshes toward which he was traveling were vast quantities of salt. Nearby was the coal, still hidden beneath the earth, its miraculous powers unguessed by the tribes that trampled over it.

This was the place which was to become the city of Akron.

CHAPTER II

The Eries

CROW-FLYING-HIGH was a member of the Erie tribe. His people occupied the land on the southern shore of Lake Erie from which water flowed into that lake. The lines were stretched beyond this natural limit in this vicinity to include the Portage lakes which, because of the abundance of fish in their waters and the game on their shores, made the tedious portage from the Cuyahoga to the Tuscarawas worth while.

They would have made a dozen such portages worth while. For they were among the best hunting and fishing grounds in the entire dominion of the tribe.

Nor was this the only use of the Portage. South of the Ohio river were the rich hunting grounds where the buffalo made his last stand east of the prairies. The mighty Iriquois, and the other Indians that had access to the Great Lakes and were powerful enough to undertake such long journeys came down the Cuyahoga river and portaged to the Ohio system, represented by the Tuscarawas.

The Portage Trail was traditionally neutral ground. It had to be, because it was an extremely important route, and for one tribe to have monopolized it would have brought the wrath of all the other tribes upon it.

The reader must understand that much of what is written here with reference to the Indian is historian's conjecture. There is more disagreement than harmony among the various authorities. The author,

forced to choose one or another of these theories as to early Indians (space does not permit an abstract and comparison of the various contentions), has elected to follow the works of P. P. Cherry, the local historian. The reader who is not satisfied with one conjecture, and feels the urge to make himself familiar with the ramifications of the subject will find the time he spends in research well repaid in fascinating reading.

Of one thing there can be no doubt. In the flat lands along the Cuyahoga river primitive cornfields were cultivated. The Eries were a sturdy and thrifty folk. Their prowess in battle was well-known among the other tribes of the continent, and the seat of their nation was secret country to many generations.

Who had preceded them in their occupation of this rich territory Crow-Flying-High could not have told you, and no more can I. At one time, there were mound-builders here, but they were of another family from those of the southern part of the state.

Near Botzum is one of their mounds, and near this construction is a star-stamped fort which they erected. There are numerous other hillocks in the county which may be mounds or which may merely have been the heritage of the glacier.

But these were there long before the Eries remembered, and they knew as little of their predecessors in this Amerindian paradise as we.

It was the Eries, however, who built the signal tower on Point Lookout, on the southern end of Copley swamp, the fires of which could be seen at the mouth of the Cuyahoga river in Lake Erie. It was the Eries, too, who built a fort on an impregnable island in the middle of Copley swamp—that strange jungle region which is the remainder of a great pre-historic body of water.

The Eries were great builders of forts. There were 28 villages and a round dozen of town forts. The population was 12,000 and one-third of these were braves.

The strength of the tribesmen—their excellent preparation for warfare and their individual fitness, for they were tall and powerful—kept the other Indian nations at peace during many decades, for there was no tribe which cared to draw the Eries into combat against it.

The wise men of the tribe knew that peace would not last. A strange element had entered their life. Tales were brought, mouth to mouth, of another race of men in the east—men with pale faces who possessed miraculous powers of offense and who had brought discord with them.

And there appeared among them braves who had seen the white men with their own eyes, and the impression was none to reassure one.

And the white man himself came—the soldier of the Society of Jesus, the French officer, the lonely outland trapper.

And then came the great war of the giants. The English of our colonies, jealous of the theory that the Eries were friendly to the French and awed by the reports of the great stature and martial abilities of the men of that tribe, whispered encouragement in the ears of the warlike chieftains of the Five Nations, who had always envied the Eries their Eden. Armed with the white man's encouragement and the white man's thunderous weapons, the Five Nations drove a wedge between the Eries and their lake, and that wedge was inserted wider and ever wider, until, cut off from their great water, the Eries made their stand in the inland forts and were destined to surprise and defeat. The Five Nations were in possession of what was to be the Connecticut Western reserve.

This was in the middle of the seventeenth century, more than a century before the liberty bell was rung.

CHAPTER III

After The Eries

DURING the next century, the territory in which Akron stands was overrun with Indians of many tribes.

The Senecas, the Ottawas, the Onondagas, Oneidas, Cayugas, Chippewas, Mingoes, Massangas, Shawnees and Delawares made themselves free of this region.

They were migratory all, and moved rapidly from one inland village to another.

The explorer, the missionary, the trapper and the adventurer were the only white men who visited them. Occasionally, a few white captured in the east would be brought through these parts as prisoners.

It is recorded that in 1760 the Delawares held white prisoners in their village on the Great Bend of the Cuyahoga.

In 1775, Col. James Smith was taken prisoner by Indians who forayed into Pennsylvania. He was made to run the gauntlet, and when he had recovered from that strenuous initiation, he was made a member of the tribe. The hair was plucked from his head, save at one spot in the center of the crown. His ears and his nose were bored and decorated. His body and head were painted in various colors. Three young squaws then gave him a severe washing in the river, and he was officially a tribesman.

Twice he passed through what was to be the site of Akron—on a trip westward with his tribe, and again, four years later, when, taking advantage of the freedom al-

lowed him, he escaped and returned to his kin in Pennsylvania.

The French were active in Ohio from the middle part of the eighteenth century, but their explorations were mainly in the southern part. In the latter part of that century, after the French and Indian war, the military expeditions of the colonists were frequent in the same territory.

Between 1760 and 1790, dozens of Indian villages were located in the immediate vicinity of Akron. Every tributary of the Cuyahoga had a few villages, some small and some large.

Old Cuyahoga Town was located in what is now North Akron. At the Big Falls of the Cuyahoga were two villages, and at Silver lake were two more, with a combined population which is estimated at 1,000 red men.

Chief Wam-te-kek had his Delaware village on Turkeyfoot lake; Chief Hopocan, or Captain Pipe, as he was better known, King of New Portage, ruled over a village at the place where Louis Young's hotel now stands. An Ottawa village under Chief Seneca was located at the mouth of the Little Cuyahoga. Pontiac's camp was a village on the Cuyahoga river near Botzum. Pontiac and Logan the Eloquent were not really Western Reserve Indians, although both were often in this region.

Tecumseh was familiar with this territory. He was born where Piqua now stands.

The white men were not the first to take advantage of the agricultural excellence of the soil in this neighborhood. Scattered through what is now Summit county were several maize fields which had been under cultivation at least a century before the pioneers came. Indians of a camp known as Pontiac's village, at Botzum, though Pontiac could not have been there, sold corn to the settlers of the white villages on Lake Erie.

When the first pioneers came to these parts, they found white men who had preceded them. There was the Old Man of the Woods, whose only other name was Merryman, a descriptive rather than a hereditary title. He was a recluse. The secret of his origin never passed his lips. He helped the pioneers build their cabins and red man and white man alike had faith in his virtues as an herb doctor. It was the belief that he could cure any disease.

Indian Holmes was another white man of the Western Reserve who was here before the pioneers came. His ancestry was French. There was little about him besides his color which distinguished him from the redskins. He knew their woodcraft, and preferred their society to that of the white people. An Indian squaw was his wife. His chief friend was an Indian known by the name of Williams. It is related that Indian Holmes saved the life of David Blocker of Wadsworth from the fangs of a bear. Holmes shot the bear after it had borne Blocker to the ground and was about to kill him.

The tradition was that Holmes came to this region with a stock of goods given into his charge by other persons, and that the goods were lost and Holmes preferred to stay in the wild country and become an Indian rather than return and face the victims of his accident.

Akron was the head of a canoe navigation in the early 1780's. Situated on the portage between the two great waterways, it was inevitable that the locality should be a trading mart and clearing house among those who trafficked south and those who trafficked north.

In 1780, a band of Cuyahoga Valley Indians crossed over into Pennsylvania on a mission of murder and plunder. Capt. Samuel Brady, commander of a troop of rangers stationed at Chartier Creek, Pa., was ordered to pursue them.

The route taken by the Indians on their retreat led them over a trail running from Fort McIntosh at the mouth of the Big Beaver and west through Portage county, crossing the Cuyahoga river at Standing Rock, near Kent. From here they went to Northampton, where they stopped and prepared to receive their pursuers.

The Brady pursuit was rather more courageous than sensible.

The Indians overwhelmed the rangers, and began, in their turn, a pursuit of their own. Leaving the rest of the soldiers to do as they liked, the Indians concentrated on capturing Brady, who fled before them over the trail that he had come.

Near the present village of Kent, where the river flows between perpendicular cliffs 22 feet apart, Brady was surrounded. He leapt the chasm.

From here he ran to a lake three miles distant—a lake still known by his name—where he submerged himself beneath the water and breathed through a hollow reed, and thus escaped his pursuers.

CHAPTER IV

The Western Reserve

WHEN James I and Charles II were issuing charters to the colonies of America, very little was known about the geography of the internal regions.

The maps were laughably fallacious, and, indeed, they could not possibly have been anything else, for they were founded on the cosmographer's conjecture rather than on exploration and survey.

The result of this was that several states held charters which gave them claim to the same territory. This was one of the facts which made extreme diplomacy among the colonies—and among the states, when they became states—very necessary. If the common benefit and the common enthusiasm had not been so marked, this sole fact might have prevented the final harmony which evolved the United States of America.

Blood was shed because of the contradictory claims. It was a dispute between Connecticut and Pennsylvania as to the title to the region known as Westmoreland county (in what is now Pennsylvania) that led to the infamous "Wyoming Massacre," of 1778, when a band of whites and Indians operating with the passive connivance of Pennsylvania swept down upon a colony of Connecticut and Massachusetts pioneers and killed three hundred white men, women and children.

In 1780, congress began the work of arbitration, appealing to the colonies to turn over their unoccupied western lands to the government, for the benefit of all the states in the union.

Connecticut—the mother state of this region—lost her

contest against Pennsylvania, and was given, as a consolation prize, a reserve, the boundaries of which included the present counties of Ashtabula, Trumbull, Lake, Geauga, Portage, Cuyahoga, Medina, Lorain, Huron and Erie, and parts of Mahoning, Ashland, Ottawa and Summit.

It is now—as it was then—an important section. Every important Lake Erie harbor excepting Toledo is in the reserve. Its area is 3,500,000 acres—less than one-eighth of the state—but its present population is one-third that of the state.

The territory which is now known as Erie and Huron counties was set aside as the "Fire Lands," which were to be presented to the soldiers of Connecticut whose homes in that state were burned during the Revolutionary war.

The choice of these two counties is an example of Connecticut thrift. They were the most westerly and the most inaccessible of the lands. The better territory was saved to be sold; it would sell at a better price.

In 1795 the Connecticut Land Co. bought the Western Reserve—excepting the Fire Lands—for the sum of $1,200,000, which sum—again with Connecticut thriftiness—was placed at once in the public school fund.

Approximately 50 men formed this company. Some were prospective settlers. Some were speculators. Moses Cleveland, for whom the state's proudest city is named, was appointed superintendent of surveys, and the work of laying out the territory began.

For a time, the Western Reserve was a country without a government. Twenty or thirty settlements of white men had, by that time, been made in this territory. In 1800, Connecticut, which had retained the legal jurisdiction of the Western Reserve ceded it to the United States, and it became part of the Northwest Territory.

Governor St. Clair organized it into one county, which

he named after Jonathan Trumbull, governor of Connecticut.

Warren was made the county seat, and between two corncribs on the second Tuesday of October, 1800, the first officers of the new county were elected.

The Connecticut Land Co., failing to find any other way for a reasonable distribution of the real estate of the Reserve among its shareholders, adopted the idea of a lottery, and it was by the drawing of byes that the titles of the first personal owners of this county were established.

On the forty-ninth drawing, John McClellan drew two lots which comprise a part of the town site of Akron.

On Christmas day of 1800, McClellan sold his land to Nathan Grosvenor. Grosvenor sold it to Baxter Lyon, who, in turn, sold it to Daniel Stewart.

The original price was about 35 cents an acre.

Stewart allowed his title to lapse through non-payment of taxes, and in 1807 Gen. Simon Perkins, whose faith in the Reserve was shown by extensive holdings of land in the present Trumbull county, went yet further into the wilderness and bought 1,003 acres for the taxes, which amounted to four dollars, one cent and two mills.

CHAPTER V

The First Decade Of The 19th Century

DURING the first decade of the nineteenth century the settlement of this vicinity began. These ten years were eventful. They saw the first settler arrive in Middlebury—the oldest part of what is now Akron. They saw the first settler arrive in the territory now inside our city limits but outside those of ancient Middlebury. They saw the first white child born here. They saw the birth of industry on the banks of the Little Cuyahoga river. They saw Ohio admitted to the union, in 1803.

During the first half of the decade, the part of the Western Reserve which lies west of the Cuyahoga river was not in the United States, but in 1805, at the treaty of Fort Industry, the Indians, in return for money and merchandise, ceded it. Previous to that time it had been a felony for a white man to settle west of the Cuyahoga river. It was two years after the treaty before the land was opened and settlers admitted.

During this decade not one settler erected a log cabin on what was to be the first town-site of Akron.

The first settler in Middlebury, which is now East Akron, was Capt. Joseph Hart, who arrived there in 1807. The following year his daughter Eliza—who was to become Mrs. Roswell Kent—was born, the first white child in what is now Akron. The first settler in the Akron territory outside Middlebury was Major Miner Spicer, who laid out a 260-acre farm is what was later "Spicertown," in 1810, and settled there the following year, after a four-month trip from Groton, Conn., by ox

team. With him were his wife, his brother Amos and his cousin, Paul Williams.

This same cousin, Paul Williams, was to be the first settler in the original town-site of Akron. But this was not until the next decade.

The period between 1800 and 1810 saw the first school started at Hudson, O. It saw the establishment at Hudson of the first postoffice in the present county of Summit.

It saw every one of the present townships of Summit county with the exception of Twinsburg settled. In some of them there were only two or three or four log cabins and clearings, but Hudson, Boston and Green had populations of 20 to 30 or thereabouts.

It saw the beginning of David Bacon's religious Utopia in Tallmadge township.

The first legitimate settlers, coming to take over land to which they had acquired legal title, found the squatters here. There was no animosity where the claims did not overlap. There was room for everyone.

The settlers were in the main from New England and Pennsylvania. But there were squatters from Virginia and its neighboring states. They had worked up this way from southern Ohio.

They were colorful years. The Indian was still here. He had relinquished his lands east of the Portage path in 1795, and ten years after that he gave up much of the ground west of that historic trail. After this latter treaty, many of the Indians left, but there were still villages on the banks of the Cuyahoga and the shores of the lakes.

It is good to understand the manner of life of those early settlers.

Their homes were log cabins. There were two standard sizes for these structures—12 by 14 feet or 14 by 16. Nails were scarce—indeed, there were many of the old log cabins that were built entirely without them. The

shingles—split by the man who built the cabin—were kept in place by poles laid across them. The beds, the chairs and the tables were made of puncheons. Woven elm bark or hickory slats were the basis of the pioneer's nightly rest.

The chinks in the walls of the cabin were filled with clay, where wooden wedges would not suffice to make them tight.

The fireplaces were huge affairs, often occupying the whole of one end of the cabin. They were fashioned of stone, picked up on the premises and held together by mortar or stiff clay. The chimneys were made in the same way, or by laying iron-wood sticks cross-wise and plastering them with mud.

Logs six to ten feet in length were burned in these fireplaces. The front log would be the largest and toughest. It would be placed on the andirons. Back of it, also on the andirons, was a smaller log. Between them was piled the smaller wood. Over the fire hung an iron kettle, in which everything by way of boiling, roasting, frying and baking was done. The heat from these fireplaces was great, but it was not evenly distributed. The old settlers used to tell of freezing on one side and roasting on the other.

The fire was banked at night, and the inhabitants of the cabin would retire to their beds. Furs and quilts kept them warm, but it was an ordeal to rise in the morning.

In some of the cabins, there were lofts to which access was had by pins driven into the wall. The floor of the loft would be puncheons laid loose on the beams.

Light was obtained from candles. Candle-dipping was one of the household chores. A kettle of tallow would be melted. Into this tallow would be dipped

a wick. As soon as it was withdrawn, the tallow would harden, and it would be dipped again and again and again, until it had reached the desired thickness. Later came candle molds and a less laborious making of the means of illumination.

The pioneer depended on his gun as well as on his spade to furnish him with food. Agriculture was difficult, in spite of the richness of the soil. The tilled patches were thickly studded with stumps and boulders. Interlaced roots made cultivation difficult.

CHAPTER VI

Pioneer Life

VENISON was the most prized of the larger game meats. "Deer shining" was one of the favorite ways of hunting. The pioneer would paddle slowly along some stream after dark, carrying a burning torch in his canoe.

The deer, seeing the light, would stand still for safety's sake, and would, of course, watch the flame. Their eyes glowed out of the darkness with the fire's reflection, and the pioneer aimed between them with his muzzle-loading rifle.

Hogs and sheep were precious animals. They were brought to this vicinity at great expense; many of every drove that started from New England died on the way. The sheep furnished meat for the table and wool for clothing. The hogs furnished a welcome relief in the diet, and supplied the cupboard with lard. Their hides were prized as sole-leather.

It was hard to keep sheep and hogs even after the pioneer got them here. The wolves were very fond of sheep, and the bear was the natural enemy of the hog.

Whenever a pig squealed, the pioneer took his rifle from the antlers above his fireplace, and went forth prepared to kill bear. Bear do not die easily. There is a story of one bear killed in these parts after a hand-to-hand combat with a hunter who used a knife, and how in that bear's carcass were found eleven bullets, each of which could be identified as belonging to some particular settler. Rifles varied

greatly in bore, and everybody knew the bore of every rifle in the vicinity.

Although there are no records of any human being having fallen prey to the wolves in this vicinity, there were several instances where women going from one cabin to another on horseback were harried by the ravenous animals and were saved by the courage of their horses.

Wolves and snakes were the greatest fears of the women. The rocky parts of the neighborhood were full of rattlesnakes. The hogs helped in exterminating these. In several communities, clubs were formed for killing the snakes, and there is a tale of how the blacksmith of Stow, finding a den of rattlers in a pit at the Gorge one Sunday morning in early spring, plugged up the crevice which was their only retreat with a limb torn from a tree, lowered himself among them and killed several score of them single-handed, with a club.

There is a story about a sow belonging to one Western Reserve pioneer which was attacked by a bear and badly multilated before the bear could be killed. The bear had eaten the flesh off the pig's back from the neck to the tail. The farmer, instead of killing the swine, smeared the wound with pitch. The sow recovered to raise families after her experience.

The hog, brought here as a domestic animal, soon made an element of the wild animal life of the vicinity. Escaped swine ran wild in the woods, and formed in droves for their own protection. One pioneer saw a drove of them kill a wolf which had attempted the life of a young hog of their number.

The people who settled the Western Reserve were chiefly of Connecticut and Massachusetts stock—the

offspring of stern Puritans and stern Puritans themselves. The Western Reserve was the last stand of Puritanism in the United States. Whatever the defects of these people may have been, they were excellent pioneers. Thrift and stubbornness stood them in good stead.

The church and the school came with them. A veritable passion for education was in them. Their teachers were fine men—men who became statesmen and lawyers of great repute.

The school buildings were log cabins, like the homes of the settlers. The scholars sat on benches made of puncheons into which legs had been set, and laid their books beside them.

Two short terms—a summer term and a winter one—were held and the pupils walked over their own paths through the woods, five and six and more miles than that, to attend.

There is an anecdote of one school taught by a woman. An Indian, naturally mistaking it for a log cabin, walked in one day while the class was in session.

The children were frightened, expecting to be scalped, and the teacher, aware that there was a definite danger, gathered her courage and asked the red man what he wanted.

The Indian looked around the room filled with children. Amazement was written on his face. Its place was taken by admiration when he glanced from the children to the teacher.

"Heap much papoose!" he said in a tone of great respect, and left.

The teacher blushed and went on with the class.

It was during this period that the recluse trappers made their last stand in the Western Reserve. They

were picturesque characters. They did no farming, but depended on hunting, fishing and trapping for their living. They outdid the Indian in knowledge of woodcraft; they knew the bee trees of the woods as well as the real estate man of today knows the prospective buyers of property, and they were skilled in the use of herbs and primitive medicines.

They lived in lonely cabins, and sometimes in caves. Invariably, they concealed their true identity. But it is known that two of them were graduates from Yale and that one had been the commander of a former army. Two of them were reputed to be very wealthy, and to have cached their treasures in hollow trees. They were rather an aid than a detriment to the early settlers. Game was plentiful enough for all, but doctors were not so easy to find. Their skill in treating diseases with Indian remedies saved many lives.

But when it became apparent that this region was destined for settlement, they began, one by one, to leave. If it was possible to run into two cabins in the course of a half day's rambling, they said, "This is getting too crowded. A man can't breathe in such close quarters." And they took their belongings on their backs, and their rifles in their hands, and were gone.

CHAPTER VII

Indians And Indian Fighters

DURING the second decade of the Nineteenth Century—from 1810 to 1820—the settlement of what is now Summit county was rapid. Singly and in groups the Yankees from New England came to the new country, where fortunes were to be made and families to be established. They came overland, driving ox teams, walking and riding horses. They came by boat to Cleveland, followed the Cuyahoga to the neighborhood of that flourishing little village—Middlebury.

The townships were organized and named. Saw mills and grist mills were built at the places where water power was plentiful. The clearings were widened. Hogs and sheep and frequently cows were brought here in droves and men who had no intention of wrestling with the soil for their food came, and dreamed large dreams of future cities.

Paul Williams, who had come to these parts with Major Minor Spicer, in the first year of this decade became the first settler on what was to be the original town-site of Akron.

The war of 1812 and its satisfactory conclusion gave a powerful impetus to the immigration. It made it certain that land bought in the Western Reserve would remain the property of those who bought it; that the United States was a nation capable of backing up the legal claims of its citizens.

What was equally important, it cleared the county of Indians. The word of this elimination, spread

among the citizens of New England, removed the last objections of many potential pioneers, and they converted their goods into cash, bought land and started west.

And here, before we have gone too far in our history to give them a word, we must make a note on the Indian fighters.

This means the ruination of an illusion. They were not always admirable and heroic men.

The most romantic of them was Col. Richard M. Johnson of Kentucky, an officer in the federal army in the war of 1812.

On Oct. 5, 1813, the Americans under General Harrison and Governor Shelby of Kentucky gave battle to the British and Indians on the River Thames.

It was in this battle that Tecumseh, the great chief, deserted by his British allies when their front lines were broken, made his last stand. During the whole battle his voice rang out over the noise of the fighting, and when his voice was silent, the battle ceased.

Col. Johnson—Dick Johnson—shot Tecumseh with a pistol. Tecumseh was scalped and flayed. His skin was cut into razor strops.

Of his exploit Col. Johnson made a little song, which he sang with great gusto. It was heard in Hudson and in other parts of this vicinity. It went like this:

Ripsy, rantsy, humpsy, dumpsy!
I, Dick Johnson, killed Tecumseh!

Then there was Liberton Dixon of Green township. He had left the locales of frontier civilization and gone to live with the Indians. For several years he got along with them. But at last he aroused the anger of a patriarch of the tribe, who took after Dixon with a knife, chasing him around the camp fire.

Dixon took to his heels and retreated into the darkness. He stumbled over a brush heap, and the Indian stumbled over him. The knife was dropped, and the first hand to reach it was white. And in a moment, that hand was red.

Dixon, having killed the Indian, decided that the safe thing was to return to the white people. On the way back, he was pursued by the friends of the Indian he had slain, and took refuge back of a tree-trunk. It wasn't big enough to conceal him, and seven bullets passed through his clothing. But he escaped, and became the bitter enemy of the red man.

He was popularly believed to have killed several Indians. His own accounts substantiated these rumors. Here is the story of Wam-pe-tek, chief of a tribe that lived on the banks of Turkeyfoot lake. These Indians were harmless. They spent their time fishing and hunting. Their policy toward white people was complete avoidance. But one day Wam-pe-tek and Liberton Dixon quarreled about a bee tree. Shortly afterward, the Indian was no longer seen.

It was remembered that a shot had been heard.

"What did you shoot at?" some pioneer asked Dixon.

"I shot at a deer."

"Where is your deer?"

"I missed the animal."

Liberton Dixon did not miss many marks. It is said that he buried the chief's body in Indian pond, which is one mile west of East Liberty and just northwest of the schoolhouse.

That is why the old settlers preferred not to pass that pond after dark. They said that his whoop could be heard, ringing eerily through the forests.

Liberton's brother John was an Indian fighter, too,

and it was he who prevented the tribe of Wam-pe-tek from taking vengeance for the death of their chief.

Another Indian fighter was Jonathan Williams. Raised among the aborigines at Indian Wheeling, he could neither read nor write, but whatever an Indian could do by way of woodcraft, he too could do, and he was a perfect shot. He supported a wife and family by his rifle, and went dressed as an Indian.

The general belief was that his family was all killed off by Indians and that he was kidnapped by them. Whatever the reason may have been, he operated on the policy of shooting every Indian he saw.

An Indian by the name of Mohawk, following a disputed horse trade at Deerfield, in Portage county, shot out the eyes of Daniel Diver, a white man. He fled to "Pontiac's camp" in Boston, and was pursued. Williams heard about it, and joined the posse at Boston. With Mohawk were several other Indians, who had no part in the matter. There was Nickshaw, a harmless and friendly old man against whom nothing could have been held but the fact that his skin was red, and Nickshaw's squaw with a papoose on her back, and the Indian Bigson with his two sons. Bigson had served under Mad Anthony Wayne, and was the friend of the whites.

The pursuing party did not capture Mohawk, but in the course of the pursuit, Williams shot down the harmless Nickshaw. Bigson and his two sons were captured, and carried, with barbarous cruelty, to Warren to be tried. A white man who intended to give Bigson a pair of moccasins to protect his bleeding, frozen feet was forbidden by the commander of the expedition. While Bigson and his sons were being exonerated at Warren, Bigson's squaw died. In his

old age Bigson used to sit on the bank of a river, lamenting the sadnesses of his life.

Williams also shot the Indian known as Wilson, who, having got "squabby," as the Indians called it, stuck his gun through a chink in the wall of Old Mother Newell's cabin and compelled the old lady to dance a jig.

Captain Delawn Mills of Portage county was another renowned Indian fighter. It was his peculiarity that a most pleasant smile always spread over his features whenever he got into extreme danger, and his absolute regardlessness of consequences was a great factor in many of his victories. He was credited with having killed Big Chief Cayuga, chief of the tribe of that name.

In June, 1812, the Indians of the vicinity began acting in a manner which seemed mysterious to the settlers. It was obvious that something was in the wind. They gathered at their villages, and preparations for movement were made.

The first assumption of the settlers was that a massacre impended.

The alarm spread from settlement to settlement, and the pioneers took their families and gathered in fortified places for protection.

Every preparation for defense was made, and scouts were sent out to watch the activities of the Indians. The red men were very secretive. It was impossible to know what they planned to do.

But instead of attacking the whites, the Indians left. Moving under cover of night, they disappeared entirely. It was as simple and as sudden as that. One day they were here. The next day they were gone.

They had gone to join the British in the war of

1812. It was the last of the Indian occupation of what is now Summit County.

After the war was over, five Indians made a camp at the great bend of the Cuyahoga. Here Capt. Delawn Mills discovered them. Gathering together a few Indian fighters of his own stamp, Capt. Mills returned after dark, and killed four of the Indians. The other made his escape. A little later a few returned to Richfield, but only for a few days. It was but a stage in their march toward the west.

Now and then, some settler would report that he saw an Indian brave standing, in an attitude of great veneration, on the banks of Silver lake. This was their favorite locality; their attachment to that body of water amounted almost to worship.

But as silently as he came, the visiting Indian would disappear.

The red man was gone. He had yielded to the white man the Paradise of his domains. The white man, seeing the excellence and beauty of the heritage, took it eagerly.

CHAPTER VIII

The Third Decade Of The Nineteenth Century

THIS decade saw the establishment of Akron. Middlebury had become a town of three or four hundred people. It had several mills, a blast furnace, nail factory, three or four inns and a dozen stores.

Talk of a great canal which would link the commerce of the Great Lakes with that of the Ohio and—through the Ohio—the Mississippi river set the empire-builders to dreaming and scheming.

It was important for Middlebury to be on that canal. Lauren Dewey, an enterprising young printer of Ravenna, proposed a newspaper, to be called "The Ohio Canal Advocate" which might be used as a lever toward this end.

The paper was to be financed by public subscription. A total of $204 was underwritten, and the plan was launched. An old press and some battered type were bought in Cleveland and started on its overland journey to Middlebury. Ozias Bowen joined the fortunes of the enterprise, becoming half owner.

Before the first issue could be printed, the route for the canal was determined, and the original purpose of the undertaking was gone. Its name was changed to "The Portage Journal."

The state authorities had determined that the canal would pass Middlebury some distance to the west.

This started Gen. Simon Perkins of Warren to thinking. The stakes for the new canal were being set, and it was apparent that a series of locks would

be needed to tide the water from the Summit to the Cuyahoga level.

This would be a good site for a new village—a village that would have advantages of water power and water transportation—advantages which were more important in those days than we can imagine now. It would be in the center of a fine agricultural region. It would be the site of a village which would be well adapted to make itself a formidable rival of Middlebury.

Gen. Perkins owned 1,003 acres of land in the vicinity of the canal site—land he had acquired by paying $4.01 back taxes.

Charles W. Brown, of Middlebury, was the owner of 58 acres of swampy and uneven land running from the southwest corner of the intersection of Main and Exchange sts., in a southwestern direction. The canal would go through this. Gen. Perkins had suggested that Brown donate the right-of-way. Brown, a man of limited means, could not afford to do this, but he willingly traded his property for 45 acres of Gen. Perkins' land in the eastern part of Portage township.

These properties of Gen. Perkins' were to be the western half of the town site. The eastern half was a part of Paul Williams' farm. Williams joined Gen. Perkins in his plan for a new town, and on Dec. 6, 1825, a plat of the site was recorded in the archives of Portage county, of which this territory was then a part.

The territory included in the plat is that which is now bounded by Summit st., Center st., Pine st. and an alley next south of Catharine st.

The land enclosed by these boundaries had its natural disadvantages. Excepting for the accident of

its being crossed by the canal, it would hardly have been chosen as an ideal site for municipal development. It was hilly and broken, two valleys ran across it and much of it was marsh land. The hills were sandy.

Across it straggled a state road which ran from Warren through Ravenna, Franklin Mills (the present city of Kent), Stow Corners and Middlebury, and then in an aimless fashion down what is now Buchtel av., across the valley to what is now Five Points, then up the hill and out toward New Portage and Johnson's Corners, to join the stage road from Cleveland, near Wooster.

At the time the canal was being staked out, the only tavern on this road between Middlebury and New Portage was Joshua King's, a one-story log structure on the site of what was to become John Brown's home.

The construction work on the canal gave the new village of Akron its first impetus. The laborers employed in the digging and the engineers who supervised the work built their cabins along the right-of-way of the projected waterway and formed a relatively large, if transient, population.

To supply these, and to get his share of the trade which passed through on the state road, Henry Clark built a hotel, two stories high, on the northeast corner of Main and Exchange sts., where the Peoples Savings & Trust building now stands.

The laborers needed clothing and supplies, and it was not long until a man named Benedict built a two-story frame store diagonally across the intersection. This was called—in keeping with the spirit of the times—The Mammoth Store.

The name "Akron" was selected by Gen. Perkins.

It is from a Greek word meaning "high place." At that time it was erroneously believed that Akron was the highest point in the state.

Lots in the new village sold rapidly.

Before July 4 of the year 1825, Dewitt Clinton, the patron saint of the Ohio canal, passed through Middlebury by stage, and, amid the booming of cannon and the making of speeches, visited the site of the new village of Akron.

A separate community of Irish had sprung up in the lowlands under North Hill. They were laborers on the canal. Their settlement was known as "Dublin," and the place bore this name for many generations.

From the time the first stakes were set to the time the northern division of the canal was completed two years elapsed. In 1827, Akron had a population of approximately two hundred, including the Irish settlement. Included in this total were merchants, lawyers, doctors, artisans and laborers. And an element of soldiers of fortune—men who had left the east because the east had grown too warm for them, and who saw in the impending boom of the canal towns a fine chance for the prosecution of their trades—gambling, counterfeiting, stealing and swindling.

The corner of Main and Exchange sts. was obviously to be the center of the new community. In its vicinity, the most substantial buildings were erected, and trade gravitated toward it.

Wolsey Wells, one of the first lawyers to settle in the new village, was named postmaster by John Quincy Adams. The first postoffice was located in his dwelling-house at the corner of Water and W. Exchange sts. He became the Pooh-Bah of Akron. The

state made him collector of tolls for the Ohio canal, and he was appointed justice of the peace.

The print on the state records establishing the route of the canal was hardly dry when agitation was begun for another canal, to connect the Ohio canal with the east by way of Pittsburg. On Nov. 6, 1825, a mass meeting was held at Ravenna, and representatives from Portage county (which then included this region) and Trumbull county were present. General Simon Perkins led the Warren delegation. Dr. Eliakim Crosby represented Portage county. In this meeting was begun the movement which was to culminate in the digging of the Pennsylvania and Ohio canal, a water-way which was to give Akron its first great municipal celebration and which was to assure it of a boom.

Tentative action was taken in the legislatures of Ohio and Pennsylvania, and preliminary surveys were made. But the matter was allowed to rest for several years before it was again taken up.

CHAPTER IX

The Opening Of The Canal

SOON after work started on the Ohio canal, Alexander and Edward Wheeler began building a canal boat which was to be called "The Ohio." They did their work a score or so of rods south of Exchange st., on the banks of the canal.

On June 27, 1827, it was launched, with much celebration. The finishing touches were put on, the commissariat was attended to, and on July 3 it made its maiden trip—the first boat to navigate the waters of the Ohio canal.

Captain Henry Richards was in command. A great gala crowd of passengers swarmed its decks. Cannons were fired. Speeches were made. Brandy was drunk. Everybody who could afford the time and passage went along, to be in Cleveland for the dual celebration of Independence day and the arrival of the first boat from Akron.

John Stearns of Copley steered the Ohio. Job Harrington of Northampton furnished the team which kept the tow-rope free of the water, and drove it himself.

The Ohio canal was open. The commerce of the Great Lakes and the Atlantic was wedded to the commerce of the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico. And the first offspring of this happy union was the village of Akron—now no longer a quick, important dream in the mind of Gen. Simon Perkins, but an actuality—a thing certain of permanent existence. If the successive booms that made Akron the city that it is today

had not come, there would still have been an Akron; a picturesque, historical little community on the banks of the canal.

Freight rates were reduced. Products which were priced at a figure which would not have made a ten mile overland transportation profitable might now be sent two hundred miles and still be sold to advantage. Wheat jumped from 25 cents a bushel to a dollar. The farmers who had opposed the great waterway for the typically rural reason that taxes would be raised, discovered that potatoes which formerly had to be given away could be sold for 40 cents a bushel.

Akron became a market city.

While these events were taking place, an important thing happened in Springfield township. A resident of that township, digging in a field which belonged to a neighbor, came across a fine bed of clay. Before a year had passed, a pottery was established in Springfield. Out of this discovery was to come one of the three great industries of Akron.

During this decade there lived, in a house which he had built on his father's farm, on the west side of the Cuyahoga river, just south of the Boston bridge, a young man named James Brown. He had but recently married, and was in his twenties.

A fine figure of a man was Jim Brown, standing six feet, two inches, in his stocking feet and straight as a hickory. He was the prize scholar of his community, and it champion wrestler.

Sitting in the doorway of his home during a thunderstorm, he was struck by a bolt of lightning which tore every shred of clothes from his body and knocked him unconscious. After his recovery he boasted that no living man could throw him on his back as quickly as the Lord Almighty had done.

A small community grew up about his house during this decade and he was first a store keeper and then an inn-keeper.

These were but secondary operations with him, however. His main occupation was that of engineering a mighty system of counterfeiting, which grew during the twenties into international significance.

Associated with him was his elder brother Daniel, a man of great handsomeness and courtly manners. Their lieutenants included William Latta of Bath, an inn-keeper who was given to wearing the most expensive clothes, well-decorated with fobs and seals; William G. Taylor of Cleveland; Abraham S. Holmes and Col. William Ashley of Boston; Jonathan de Courcey and Thomas Johnson of Norton, and Joshua King and Joel Keeler of Portage.

Hidden away in the hills of Northampton, the counterfeiting apparatus was operated by a small army of subordinates.

Neither Jim nor Dan Brown ever sullied their own fingers with "the queer," as the idiom of that day called bogus money, but operated as the master minds of the scheme.

The Northampton hills and gullies afforded ample protection and seclusion for the work. The neighboring villages were flooded with bogus silver and counterfeit bank notes.

One of the principal methods of distribution took into account the cupidity of a certain element of farmers. An agent of the counterfeiters would take some farmer who had come to town with a load of produce into a private room, and show him several kegs.

"Those kegs," the farmer was told, "contain 'queer.' It is so cleverly made that not even a mint

employe could tell the difference. If you want to take on say a thousand or two, I can let you have it at 20 cents on the dollar."

The head was ripped off one of the kegs, and the farmer was shown a handful of real silver dollars. Impressed with the accuracy of the composition, he would enter into the bargain. When he got home, he found perhaps twenty silver dollars in the head of the opened keg and the rest would be scrap iron. And he was helpless even to complain of the wrong which had been done to him.

As eagerly as the empire-builders hailed the advent of the new canal, these counterfeiters saluted it. They saw the fields of their activity widened and enriched.

It was to be their undoing.

CHAPTER X

The New Akron

THIS was the beginning of Akron. Gen. Simon Perkins, its founder, standing on the rocky side-hill that is now the pedestal of John Brown's monument, must have entertained mighty visions of his village as he surveyed the flat basins, the gullies and hills of the site he had chosen for it.

But in his greatest dreams he could not have grasped the entirety of the Akron that was to be.

Its location was the result of something which was not controlled by its founder, for it was situated with reference to the Ohio canal.

Its growth in a northerly direction was the result of something which Gen. Perkins did not foresee when he laid out the new village. Dr. Eliakim Crosby was to build a rival village to the north, as part of a water-power scheme that was gigantic for those days. Gen. Perkins was to have a hand in this development, but it must have been something his original plans did not include.

He could not have known of the impetus which the village was to have from the building of the Pennsylvania and Ohio canal, which placed Akron at the intersection of two important waterways—with commerce moving out of the city in three directions.

He was a New Englander, and it is probable that he believed the New Englanders would forever dominate his new village. He did not foresee that the Germans would come to town, and establish two of the

city's greatest industries—the oatmeal manufactory and the printing business.

He could not have known what the final fate of the city was to be—how the canal market which he had designed it to be would become as much an industrial center as a commercial within ten years of its establishment, and how this tendency was to increase always more and more, and how one day Dr. Goodrich would pick up a pamphlet issued by a group of men who had decided that Akron needed new industries.

He did not foresee the results of this accident.

He did not foresee the coming of rubber to the city, and how a respectable industry in the manufacture of rubber hose and belting would give the city an impetus in the seventies and eighties.

And if he had been told that the day would come when wagons and buggies would coast over the streets which he had surveyed under their own power, he could have laughed and been incredulous.

This unforeseen and unthought-of development was to change the complexion, character and growth of the city. The sudden birth of the automobile (it was sudden, from the standpoint of history) made the rubber industry the most important industry in the city, and the city the most important one in the industry.

So much of this was in the nature of accident. And the greater part of the rest was by way of unexpected development. Gen. Perkins may have dreamed of a city of 25,000, doing an excellent trade in agrarian products and machineries, the clearing house for the fertile farm country around it. He foresaw that the commerce of the canal would grow mighty and that Akron would grow fat from the stream of freight and passengers which passed through.

But a city of 200,000, with factories advertised and known the whole world over, was beyond his most expansive speculations. He could not have imagined it, in spite of the fact that he was undoubtedly one of the most far-sighted men of his day.

CHAPTER XI

The Second Akron

NOW opened the most picturesque decade in the history of Akron—the Eventful Thirties.

Picture the situation. Around E. Market st., in the vicinity of Arlington and Case aves., clustered the village of Middlebury, not greatly worried by the upstart growth of its neighbor on the west. At the corner of Main and Exchange sts., was the hamlet of Akron, a canal market which had grown to 400 population with the completion of the Ohio canal from the big river to the big lake. Huddled under the steep bluff of North Hill was the locality known as Dublin —a settlement of Irish workmen.

Taverns were springing up along the canal. Young men, their arms made strong by the swinging of axes, left the clearings in the timber to follow the lure of the canal. The gentlemen of fortune in their fine linens and cambrics sat in the taverns and invited the admiration of more prosaic men and women. Their pockets were full of bogus money made in the hills of Northampton, and mingled with this was the real currency of duped farmers.

One of the residents of Middlebury was a non-practicing doctor of medicine named Eliakim Crosby. He had served in the war of 1812, and in consequence of this loyalty, certain properties he held in Canada were confiscated by the crown. He had deserted, temporarily, the theories of allopathy for those of homeopathy, and eventually had tired completely of

the practice of medicine, and had entered on a career of empire-building.

Coming to Middlebury, he bought and for a time operated a plow factory, then a saw mill and then a grist mill. His mind was exalted with visions of fortunes to be made in this virgin manufacturing territory. We have seen him as a representative of Portage county at the meeting called to agitate a canal from Pittsburg to Akron.

"Waterpower" was the motif of his thinking. He had had experience with damming the Little Cuyahoga in his plow plant and his mills. Here was his dream:

He would build a canal which would lead the waters of the Little Cuyahoga from Middlebury to the Ohio canal, at a point several rods north of the northern limits of the new village of Akron. He took into his confidence Gen. Simon Perkins, who owned part of the land which he would have to use, and received encouragement.

Quietly, he began accumulating the riparian rights to the land on both sides of the Little Cuyahoga, and to the right-of-way of his proposed stream.

His plan, if he could carry it out, would provide a fall of 100 feet—an enormous source of power. He would build a city at the most strategic point of this waterway, and this city should be the rival of Middlebury and the new city of Akron. Its name should be Cascade.

The work was not without difficulties. The word of his purchases got abroad, and the farmers who owned land which he had to have held out for prices which were exorbitant for those days. The people of Middlebury and Akron grew suspicious of his movements, and started a counterplot. A syndicate was

formed which hired Col. Sebried Dodge (the ruins of whose once fine house are still standing under a wooded hill on the Loyal Oak road) to make surveys for another waterpower project, farther up the stream.

But there was little left after Dr. Crosby had made his plans. He was confident that his project was the best—indeed, the only logical one. When they taunted him with their threats of beating him to the establishment of a new town, he said. "Gentlemen, your scheme won't work, but mine will; and what's more, it will make the grass grow in your streets, and make a goose pasture of your town."

He succeeded. When he saw that the project was big enough for a partner, he took Judge Leicester King of Warren into the proposition, and they two, with Gen. Simon Perkins, proceeded to lay out a town of their own. Its boundaries were these:

North st., Summit st., Oak and Walnut sts., and Quarry, Bowery and W. Center sts. They touched the northern limit of Akron on the last street named, and left a wedge-shaped piece of neutral ground between.

You have heard old-timers refer to down-town Akron as "the gore." If you will look up the word in a dictionary, you will find that it means a triangular piece of land. "The gore," as it was used in Akron, meant the territory between Akron and the new village of Cascade.

Before the canal was complete, work began on a stone mill on part of the site now occupied by the Quaker Oats Co. at Howard and Mill sts. At this point, the new canal was to empty into the Ohio canal. It reached this point by winding around the hill overlooking the fairgrounds, and then flowing down the center of Main st. to a point near Mill, where it

turned west to meet the Ohio canal in its present bed. As all old-timers know, the canal is still in this same bed. It flows through a conduit under Main st.

In 1833 both the mill and the canal were finished. The water flowed through the bed as Dr. Crosby had planned it, and furnished ample waterpower. The mill became the most important one in northern Ohio.

Between Mill and Cherry sts. a deep ravine crossed Howard st. This would have to be filled before any building could be done there. So the business center of the new town was not at the same place as its industrial center. Seth Iredell (who was to be the first mayor) built a two-story frame store building at the corner of Howard and Market sts.

His building was the second to be raised in Cascade. Charles W. Howard (for whom the street was named) and Jonathan F. Fenn opened a general store in this building, later selling out to Philander D. Hall and his brother, Lorenzo. For sixty years Hall's store remained at this spot, and the intersection is still known among old-timers as Hall's corners.

A rivalry sprang up. Smug Middlebury, which had relied on its greater age to assure its stability, saw the new town grow formidable; saw it draw business swiftly and surely away from it. Akron, cocksure in its auspicious beginning, saw a strong rival springing up north of it. And the new village, just as confident as any of them, worked from dawn to dusk with a figurative grin on its face and a figurative thumb to its nose.

In its youthful impudence, it discarded the name of Cascade and began calling itself Akron.

This was not to be tolerated by the other Akron. There was great bitterness between the two villages. Middlebury, unable to believe that the upstart vil-

lages could do it any permanent harm, sat back and became a spectator to the squabble.

But its main sympathies were with the South-Enders. The overland traffic still flowed through it, and Middlebury directed it to the Exchange street Akron, representing the North-Enders as horse-thieves and cut-throats. Where Buchtel av.—then the Middlebury road—joins Market st., a sign-board was erected, pointing down Buchtel av. toward the South Akron, and bearing the legend, "Akron, One Mile."

The North-Enders at night pointed it down Market st. toward their community. It was changed back and forth several times. Guards were posted. The guards were forced to use physical force to protect the sign. The matter was finally adjusted by having two sign-boards, one pointing to "South Akron" and the other to "North Akron."

CHAPTER XII

The Middle Thirties

BOTH Akrons were growing. In two years, South Akron added 200 to its population, and by the time it reached the mark of 600, North Akron had reached the same figure. The northern village was principally a manufacturing one, whereas the southern one was commercial. Two blast furnaces were erected in Cascade within a year after it had been laid out.

In the midst of this hubbub, the town was electrified by railroad talk. News came in from the East that the Great Western Railway was to start at the Hudson river in New York, traverse Pennsylvania, and through eastern Ohio direct to the Summit level of the Ohio canal.

They were feverish days, full of rumors and excitements. The northern village of Akron, as soon as it was formed, decided it wanted to be the county seat of a new county, and the agitation which finally led to the formation of Summit county was started.

It had Cuyahoga Falls for a rival. This village at the north of the two Akrons had started at about the same time as the original Akron, and was having its own private boom. Portage county was too big, its leading citizens said. Why not make Cuyahoga Falls an associate county seat?

Eliakim Crosby inserted an advertisement in the Ohio Review (a paper published in Cuyahoga Falls; there being none in Akron) offering to raise $2,000 toward the county buildings, if the county seat should

be in Akron. Cuyahoga Falls promptly offered to raise $5,000. Too much rivalry delayed the matter.

About this time, the first church was built in what is now Akron. It was the brick structure on the site back of the East Akron fire station, in Middlebury. And at about this same time, the first Catholic priest, the Rev. J. M. Henni, came to Akron. The Baptist congregation was soon formed, with six men and three women in the organization. On the present site of the courthouse, the First Congregationalist church built a small frame structure.

Lewis Humiston, proprietor of Clark's tavern at Main and Exchange sts., was named postmaster when Wolsey Wells moved out of town, and built a frame postoffice building beside the inn.

During the latter part of the first half of this decade, a group of leading citizens proposed a bank and applied for a charter. This came to naught.

While these events were having their occurrence, the greatest counterfeiting scheme that was ever conceived by the mind of man blossomed in the brain of Dan Brown.

The old United States bank at Philadelphia was issuing banknotes which were willingly accepted as legal tender in all parts of the United States and in every country with which this nation had commerce.

Brown had obtained several excellent plates of this bank's notes, and his efficient artisans were turning out bales of counterfeit.

Here was the project which was planned:

The fraternity would charter a large vessel at New Orleans. Several thousand dollars' worth of export merchandise would be placed on the hold—commodities suited for Oriental trading. All the ready counterfeit money—$1,500,000 worth of it—would be

placed on board too, and there would be room for machinery and materials to turn out $2,000,000 more during a leisurely cruise around the horn.

They would sail to the ports of India and China, and there buy, with their bogus currency, a great cargo of silks and spices and teas.

There is no doubt but that the scheme would have worked and made its adventurers immensely wealthy, excepting for an accident which happened in New Orleans.

Jim Brown and Bill Taylor went ashore on the last night before the day picked for sailing, to take their long farewell of the last point of Occidental gaiety. New Orleans was a rowdy, wicked town in those days, and the two adventurers got drunk and started a rumpus. They were chased by police. Instead of running in another direction, as they should, they headed straight for the boat, and the pursuing policemen followed them, and came upon the counterfeiting apparatus and the bales of bogus money.

The three principals—Dan and Jim Brown and Bill Taylor—were held for trial. Jim Brown's wife, born Mather and christened Lucy, went immediately to her husband, and arranged for his defense by Gen. Lucius V. Bierce and Rufus Spalding, the best lawyers in this region.

Dan Brown died in jail. Historians differ as to the verdicts against Jim Brown and Bill Taylor. Whatever they were, Jim Brown came back to Akron in 1834 and Bill Taylor was never seen in these parts again.

Brown did not come back a social outcast, but a social lion. He was congratulated on all sides, his popularity increased a dozenfold. In the year of his return he was elected justice of the peace of Boston

township, and for three years he administered that office capably and conscientiously, although he was well-known to be the master mind of the Cuyahoga Valley counterfeiting syndicate.

Legends grew up about him. He was credited with superhuman feats of sagacity, skill and endurance.

In 1835 there arrived in Akron a young man by the name of Samuel Alanson Lane, who took a job as clerk, bartender and bookkeeper in Charles B. Cobbs' Pavilion house at Howard and Market sts. He had been warned by his friends in Ravenna and thereabouts to stay away from Akron. That was why he came here.

He was to be the nemesis of Jim Brown.

"At the date of my arrival in town," he writes in his history, "the average stranger was filled with astonishment at the large number of finely-dressed, ruffle-shirted, plug-hatted, kid-gloved, lavishly-bejewelled and apparently wealthy sojourners at the various hotels. To the writer, though, the genus was very familiar, the several preceding months having been spent in New Orleans, Louisville and Cincinnati, and on the steamers plying between those points, with brief calls at Natchez, Vicksburg, Memphis and other blackleg-infested towns upon those great thoroughfares, the Mississippi and Ohio rivers."

The rivalry between the two Akrons continued. Church congregations were split over it, and the buildings had to be located on the neutral ground of the gore to appease the factionalized members. And this was not enough. The very way the church faced was matter for dispute, and because the Baptist church was to face south, the congregation came very near splitting, and strong words were passed.

But in spite of this bitter enmity between the northern and southern villages—and perhaps because of it—agitation for a union of the two Akrons began.

This bore fruit in the winter of '35-'36, and the state legislature was petitioned for a charter which would weld the two communities under one government as the village of Akron. This was allowed.

The first election was held on the second Tuesday of June, 1836, in the tavern of Asa Larned at Main and Exchange sts. A mayor, a recorder and five trustees were to be elected.

The political parties were the Whigs and the Democrats, but party lines were forgotten in the bitterness of sectional feeling, which continued even after the consolidation of the two villages.

The north end carried away the honors in the caucuses, naming its own men as candidates for mayor and recorder. Seth Iredell was the Whig candidate for mayor and Dr. Eliakim Crosby the Democrat. Charles W. Howard (Whig) and Constant Bryan (Democrat) opposed each other for the office of recorder.

But the South End took its revenge at the election. It was easier for them to stomach Seth Iredell as mayor than Dr. Crosby, who was the genius of the rival city, and Iredell was elected, with 91 votes against Crosby's 75.

Howard, who was of Iredell's party but who was a son-in-law of Crosby, was defeated by Constant Bryan. The honors in the race for trusteeships were about equally divided.

Seth Iredell, the first mayor, was a Pennsylvania Quaker of good means. He gave the new village an excellent administration, and was impartial in the sectional battling.

The term of office was one year. In the second election, one year later, the mayoralty election took on an entirely different political complexion.

It was the young men of Akron against the old heads, and the young men won. Their candidate was a Quixotic young lawyer with his head more full of dreams than cases—a knight errant who had got himself in bad here and there by espousing the cause of the underdog, and by calling blackguards by their right name. He was an independent candidate for mayor, and his candidacy was so jeered at in general that the youth of the village espoused his cause, and —as is often the case in politics—the ridicule reacted in his favor.

CHAPTER XIII

The First Panic

THE imports of Akron in the year 1836 amounted to $500,000. The exports were valued at $400,000.

The town was wild with business enthusiasm. Every man was a capitalist, saving his pennies for investment.

Dr. Eliakim Crosby scarcely saw his first canal dug and his first town established before he was making plans for another. This was to be an undertaking much greater even than the Cascade mill race.

The plan was to dig a canal from the Big Cuyahoga at the Glens at Cuyahoga Falls along the banks of the Gorge and around the brow of the hill at the south to furnish a gigantic supply of waterpower which would drive a thousand wheels in the valley of the Little Cuyahoga and to establish that valley as the greatest manufacturing center in the United States. This would be another city, and its name would be Summit.

In the same year that saw Akron's first election he, with Simon Perkins and several local and eastern capitalists, began their plans and surveys, and the Portage Canal and Manufacturing Co. was chartered.

This was not the only fancy embroidered dream that was quickening the minds and pulses of our municipal forbears. Near the present site of the Summit county imfirmary a village by the name of Florence was enjoying a great boom. In the midst of its boom it changed its name to Munroe Falls.

Franklin Mills (now Kent) and Munroe Falls and

Akron were all worked up over a plan to bring to this region the ancient Chinese industry of silk culture and manufacture. Cocooneries were built, and breath-taking contracts for the growing of young mulberry trees were entered into. Joy H. Pendleton, who was later to become a banker, entered an agreement which made him $3,000 the first year and would have netted him $50,000 in the third year.

But the Munroe Falls and Summit City projects were only fairly started when the panic of 1837 descended on the nation like a cold fog. Money which had once been easy to borrow grew scarce. The notes of wildcat banks, which were plentiful, became gradually less valuable until at last they were worthless. The financial situation grew so tight that commerce in Akron as elsewhere returned to the primitive system of barter and exchange.

Samuel Alanson Lane, the historian of Summit county, tells of having sold a house and lot on Howard st. for forty brass clocks. He turned these clocks over as payment to the artisans who built him another house on Broadway.

Only three of the fourteen stores then existing in Akron survived the crash. One of these was the Hall Bros.' store at Hall's Corners—Howard and Market sts.

The law at that time sanctioned imprisonment for debt, and by paying a dollar or two a week for board, a creditor might throw his unfortunate debtor into the county jail for an indefinite time. Charles W. Howard, for whom Howard st. was named, spent a year in the Portage county jail because of the vindictiveness of his creditors.

The panic was a severe blow to the Summit City project. But Dr. Eliakim Crosby was not easily

daunted. The panic was to last for ten years, and during seven of those ten years the work of building the canal which was to make a city of North Hill and the valley below it was pushed with what resources might be obtained.

The silk project kept a lease on life for a time by the formation of a bank and the issuance of script. This gradually grew as worthless as the other specie, and Munroe Falls abandoned the idea of being the greatest city of the west.

When the panic struck town, Lewis Humiston, the postmaster and innkeeper, left town and precipitated a great controversy between the North-Enders and the South-Enders. So bitter was the animosity that the postmaster general announced finally that unless the factions came to an agreement, he would discontinue the postoffice in Akron!

After a conference, the South-Enders agreed to accept Lawyer Harvey H. Johnson, a North-Ender, with the understanding that the postoffice would stay in South Akron.

You must not confuse those two sections with those known by the same names today. South Akron was Main and Exchange sts. North Akron was Howard and Market sts.

Johnson was accordingly made postmaster, and soon after he was appointed, his postoffice was moved, overnight, to the corner of Howard and Mill sts. Bitter, indeed, were the wails of the South-Enders, but all their moaning got them nothing. The postoffice stayed where it was.

Just before the first election was held, Madison H. White of Medina, seeing in the intense political and sectional warfare a chance for the establishment of a newspaper, started a weekly called the Akron Post,

the first newspaper in Akron proper. It didn't last the year out. Then Constant Bryan, the city recorder, bought the equipment and for six months ran the Akron Journal as a democratic paper.

A year later, Horace K. Smith, Gideon C. Galloway and Hiram Bowen started the American Balance, a Whig organ. The panic limited its life to a little less than a year.

On Sept. 7, 1837, a few months after the American Balance was started, Samuel Alanson Lane started the Akron Buzzard.

This was an unusual newspaper. Its editor's pen-name was Jedediah Brownbread, Esq., and it was written in the Yankee dialect that was later to be made famous by Artemus Ward, Josh Billings and Petroleum V. Nasby. Its mission in life was to fight the "blacklegs," as the large disreputable element of the city was called.

Its young editor ceased living a peaceful life from the date of the first issue. He was threatened and assaulted. Attempts were made to lure him into secluded places where hired bullies might beat him to a jelly. A woman—the wife of a drunkard who had some connection with the blacklegs—cowhided him. The village simpleton set out to rotten-egg him.

You must understand that the cause of decency was not particularly popular in those days. The condition of Akron at that time may be compared with that of the new towns in the oil fields today. Jim Brown, the king of the counterfeiters, was a powerful personage, and a popular one. There was an element, of course, which frowned on the activities of the blacklegs—an element which, until Lane became its mouthpiece and inspiration, had not had much to say in the matter.

Jim Brown, in the meantime, had moved to Akron and had embarked on another colossal scheme of counterfeiting which led to his arrest. He was dismissed because witnesses from New York did not appear to prosecute him. There followed more litigation in the course of which Brown was once convicted, but a strenuous and heroic ride by his brother-in-law, W. T. Mather, from Medina to Rocky River for a writ of error and a stay of execution and back down-state to Loudonville where he intercepted the stage that was bearing Brown to the state penitentiary liberated the king of the counterfeiters. When the trial was called again, Jonathan DeCourcey, a lieutenant of the Brown gang who had turned state's evidence, turned up missing, and Brown was acquitted.

Fortune and his own shrewdness so far had kept Brown out of the penitentiary, but it was obvious that his domination of the situation was threatened. Public opinion was turning against it. Akron was growing out of its bad-boy stage. It was to be several years before Brown got his deserts, but the first stone had been loosened in the avalanche which was to sweep him off his feet.

In 1839, believing that the Akron Buzzard had accomplished its purpose of arousing public opinion against the blacklegs, Samuel Lane sold it to Hiram Bowen, who, using this equipment and part of the equipment of the American Balance, which had by then gone defunct, started the Summit County Beacon.

This was the first direct ancestor of the Akron Beacon Journal.

The latter part of the Eventful Thirties saw the formation of the Hunters' lodges here, and saw

Akron's high-handed attempt to free Canada from the toils of England.

It is the regret of this writer that he cannot do complete justice to this expedition here, but the Thirties have already usurped space which justly belongs to other decades.

A bare recital of details must suffice. Believing that Canada yearned for liberty, and resenting the arbitrary actions of the British in that dominion, the hot-blooded men of New York, Ohio and Michigan formed a secret order called the Hunters, with the purpose of raising an army to free the northern neighbor from the bonds which we had escaped.

A flourishing local lodge was formed, with Gen. Lucius V. Bierce as the leading spirit. At a convention in Buffalo, he was made commander in chief of the armies to be raised. After the eastern division of the army had given the British battle at Prescott, on the St. Lawrence river, and had been beaten and demoralized, it was planned to have the western division, under the personal command of Gen. Bierce, strike at Windsor, across from Detroit.

Of the 400 men that enrolled in the army, only 147 appeared. These refused to give up the expedition despite the desertion. They were defeated at Sandwich and Windsor, and all but thirty were taken prisoner. The thirty returned to the United States by way of Hog Island.

Of this Gen. Lucius V. Bierce, who lived to be a prominent figure in local life for many years, John Durkin, the chief of police once said, "General Bierce was such a man that men took off their hats to him when they passed him on the street."

In the meantime, Akron was growing as a com-

mercial and industrial village, in spite of the financial maladies of the nation.

To supplement the Cascade Mill, the Aetna Mill, originally intended to be a distillery, was opened on the banks of the canal at Market st. and the Center Mill on the canal at Cherry st.

New churches had been formed. These included St. Paul's Episcopal church and the First Church of Christ. Dr. Crosby built a church for the First Universalist congregation on N. High st., and Jesse Allen equipped it with the city's first pipe-organ.

The strenuous Thirties drew to a close.

CHAPTER XIV

The Fabulous Forties

THE Fabulous Forties started out with a bang in Akron. They were destined to be an eventful decade.

Here was the situation: Akron, the boisterous and ambitious young village, was pushing ahead with disconcerting assurance. Such mighty visionaries as Gen. Simon Perkins, Judge Leicester King, Lucius V. Bierce and Dr. Eliakim Crosby were actuating its growth. Middlebury, conservative and well-established, still refused to believe that the upstart community could long continue to be a formidable rival. Cuyahoga Falls, relying on the fact that it was one week older than Akron, was supremely confident of its own future, and pointed out its superior water power and the greater healthfulness of its location to prospective industries and settlers.

For several years—as you have seen—there had been agitation for the creation of a new county. At that time, what is now Summit was mainly a part of Portage county. Through shrewd political maneuvering, the proponents of the project for a new county got the matter into the state legislature, and on Feb. 28, 1840, by a very slender majority in both houses, a bill was enacted creating the county of Summit by taking two tiers of townships from Portage, four townships from Medina and two from Stark county.

The two that were taken from Stark county were Franklin and Green. These townships were not part of the original Western Reserve, and the settlers, in-

stead of being New Englanders, were chiefly of German extraction. There had never been any harmony of feeling between the two classes of settlers, and the opponents of the formation of the new county used this as one of their arguments.

The worst of their fears were not justified. Whatever friction existed at the beginning gradually died out, and when the Germans came to Akron and began playing their important part in the city's development, whatever significance the difference between the two parts of the county might have had, a mingling of the people dissipated.

As soon as the two houses had passed the enactment creating the new county of Summit, dispatches were placed in the hands of the overland mail, and in three days word reached Akron. A great impromptu celebration was staged—the word flying from house to house. General excitement reigned. Bon-fires were lighted. Bells were rung. The jubilant citizens threw their hats and cloaks into the air and performed Indian dances on the streets. The festivities lasted all day and all night. The taverns did a rushing business.

As in the case of the Armistice day celebration, this impromptu jubilation was followed, in a few days, by a more formal one. On March 3, the speakers of the two houses signed the bill, and on March 4, couriers having been sent out on horseback to inform every resident of the county of the impending festivities, the second celebration was held.

Dr. Jedediah D. Commins was made president of the day. In the choice of a scene for the celebration, the Committee of Twelve tactfully bowed to the still-existing feeling between North and South Akron, and

the celebration was held on the neutral Gore—on the present site of the courthouse.

A national salute was fired from cannon at sunrise. The Summit Guards, Akron Light Infantry, Akron Cavalry, the Copley Light Artillery, Henry S. Abbey's Akron Band and Capt. Cleveland's Military band all appeared in the drills and evolutions.

The parade was joined by a cortége of ladies, all dressed uniformly and carrying parasols, and the procession moved to the scene of the feasting. A great barbecue and picnic dinner was served. Then the speaking began. Here are a few of the toasts to which members of the assembly responded:

"The County of Summit—An infant Hercules. Give him a wide berth, for he'll be a whopper."

"Akron—Look as her as she was, as she is, and as she will be."

"Portage, Stark and Medina—Among them they have hatched a young eagle, full-fledged and on the wing. She will soar above them all."

"The Ladies of Summit—It is the summit of our ambitions to stand in the summit of their affections."

Those were the days of real oratory.

In the evening, a very large gathering partook of a banquet at the Ohio Exchange, a hotel at the corner of Main and Market sts., and, with bon-fires burning far into the night, the celebration closed.

Two things now remained to be done. The officials of the new county had to be elected, and the location of the county seat had to be decided. In a month, the first of these two necessities had been discharged. The Whigs carried off the election, and their candidates became the first officials of the new county. The first commissioners were John Hoy of Franklin, Jonathon Starr of Copley and Augustus E. Foote, of Twinsburg

—one, as you will notice, from each of the three parts of the new county.

The bill provided for the appointment of three commissioners (from other counties) to determine the location of the new county seat. There were three contenders for the honor: Akron, Cuyahoga Falls and Summit City.

Summit City was as yet in its embryo stage—it was to be the locality on North Hill which would spring up as the result of Dr. Eliakim Crosby's canal from the Glens of the Big Cuyahoga to the Little Cuyahoga. It was not dignified in general talk at that time by the name of "Summit City." It was—and among many old timers, still is—known as "The Chuckery."

This was because of a remark made by Col. John Nash of Middlebury. Summit City and its canal and industrial project were being extensively advertised. Some stranger asked Col. Nash the population of this widely advertised community. "About 10,000," said Col. Nash. "One man and nine thousand, nine hundred and ninety-nine wood-chucks."

The whole project thenceforth was known as the Chuckery Scheme, and North Hill was known as the Chuckery. This did not prevent its being the county seat for about 15 minutes, as you will see.

The county seat commission, after hearing all the arguments of the three interested communities, decided to build the courthouse on the neutral strip between North and South Akron. Gen. Simon Perkins presented them with the deed for the land on which it was to be built, and contracts for its construction were let. The work got under way.

Then Elisha N. Sill of Cuyahoga Falls was elected to the legislature, and he promptly engineered the

passage of a bill to reopen the matter and appoint a new commission to review the situation.

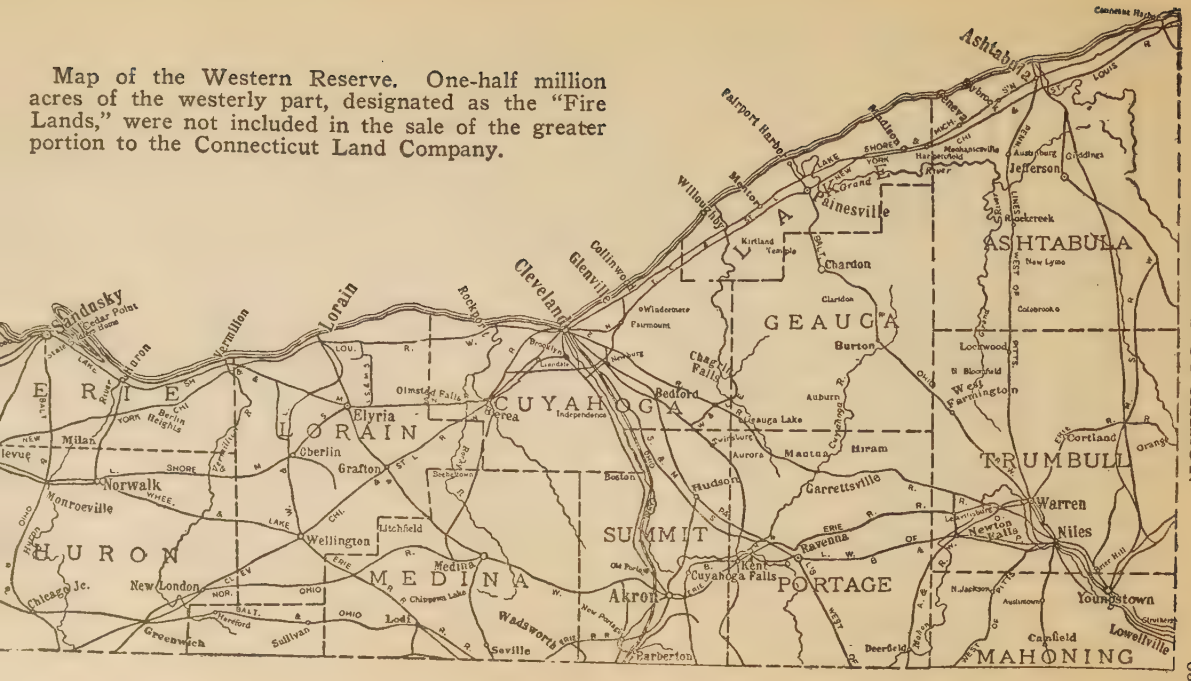
This was done. The commission, after a feverish day full of tense arguments, in exasperation decided to eliminate Cuyahoga Falls and Akron from the race entirely, and give the county seat to the underdog—the Chuckery.

This didn't satisfy anybody in Cuyahoga Falls or Akron, and when the commissioners got into a buggy to ride to the scene of the county seat and set the stakes, a crowd of expostulating citizens went along.

East Market Street, Howard and Main (south side), in 1845. Drawn by S. A. Lane.

They set the stakes half way up North Hill. The crowd gave vent to its indignation. Dr. Upson of Tallmadge said, "Nobody but fools or knaves would think of locating county buildings in such a place as that."

The tempers of the commissioners were worn to a



Map of the Western Reserve. One-half million acres of the westerly part, designated as the "Fire Lands," were not included in the sale of the greater portion to the Connecticut Land Company.

frazzle before this started, and in a few minutes they wrathfully pulled up the stakes, and drove on to Cuyahoga Falls, where they set them, and the matter seemed settled.

But it wasn't. Court action was necessary to establish the location. And this was impossible for some time. So part of the county officials had their offices at Cuyahoga Falls, and part of them stayed in Akron, and work on the county buildings stopped pending the decision which was to come.

CHAPTER XV

The Pennsylvania and Ohio Canal

WHILE the county seat location was still in abeyance, something happened which definitely established the future superiority of Akron over its nearby rivals. This was the opening of the Pennsylvania and Ohio canal. It blighted the hopes of Middlebury and gave Akron every opportunity of ascendancy over Cuyahoga Falls.

As it was originally planned, the canal was to have gone through Middlebury. This would not only have added greatly to the opportunities of that village, but would have crippled Dr. Crosby's water supply through the Cascade mill race, and might have seriously hampered the growth of North Akron.

This might be avoided by offering the bed of the Cascade mill race as the bed of the new Pennsylvania and Ohio canal. The offer was made, and it was accepted. The mill-race was widened, and when the first boat came into town over this important waterway it did not pass through Middlebury, but followed the bed of the Crosby race from the Old Forge, down the middle of Main st., and into the Ohio canal near Lock One.

The late thirties, you will recall, were a period of financial stress, and the nation did not recover until 1847. Through these troublesome and stringent times, the backers of the Pennsylvania and Ohio canal pushed the work, hoping that its completion would be the first factor in an improvement of the times. At the same time, you must not forget, Dr. Eliakim Crosby and his company were working against economic and physical barriers to finish

the chuckery race, which would make Summit City, on North Hill, the "Lowell of the West."

Judge Leicester King, whom we have seen associated with Dr. Crosby in the Chuckery project, was the leading figure in the promotion of the Pennsylvania and Ohio canal. He was president of the canal company.

When the canal was finally opened all the way from its eastern terminus, Beaver, Pa., to Akron, a great triumphal voyage was made. This was in the fall of the first year of the forties.

Various dignitaries from Philadelphia, Pittsburg and New York were on board, Governor David Porter of Pennsylvania being among them. Besides its passengers, the boat carried a brass band and a cannon, and was decorated with flags and bunting. The banks of the canal were lined with cheering people who had left their work to see the festive vessel go by. At every community, there was a celebration and speaking, and the passengers got to know Governor Porter's speech so well they might have prompted him if he had forgotten any part of it.

A great escort of Akron residents met the boat at Old Forge and accompanied it with cheering and the waving of flags to the juncture of the New Canal with the Ohio canal.

A great banquet was spread in a private dining room in May's Block, and the party which had been eating and drinking all the way from Beaver to Akron ate and drank some more. Among the provisions of the boat were: a barrel of sherry, a barrel of Madeira, a great many cases of champagne and plenty of brandy.

In the evening, there was another banquet at the Ohio Exchange, where food and strong drink were so freely taken that one of the celebrants, a general from Warren, died of apoplexy. His son, who had drunk just as much

without dying, cried about it and explained tearfully that he always wept when his father died. Another convivial rejoicer denied that the thing cast a pall over the festivities. "It was fine," he said, "dom'd fine. The old fellow went out of the world with his belly full of beef-steak and brandy."

The canal was open.

It became a great artery of passenger traffic, and Akron became a stage in the transportation of freight from the east to the city of Cleveland. Goods from Pittsburg were brought down the P. and O. canal to Akron, and taken through the Ohio canal to Cleveland.

In spite of the financial stringency of the times, Akron boomed. The population increased. The existing mills did a bigger business. The volume of commerce may be judged from the following statistics, taken from the Summit Beacon of Oct. 11, 1843, which apply to the Ohio canal only: "Amount of most kinds of property cleared at Akron on the Ohio canal during the month of September, 1843: 27,186 barrels of flour; 25 barrels of whisky; 34,495 bushels wheat; 48,233 bushels mineral coal; 209,546 pounds merchandise; 29,816 pounds furniture and baggage; 770,532 pounds iron and nails; 89,168 pounds glass and glassware; 62,575 pounds butter; 166,309 pounds cheese; 9,610 pounds wool; 43,723 pounds Pot and P ashes; 11,615 pounds cotton yarn; 6,700 pounds tobacco; 121,366 pounds pig iron; 103,391 feet lumber.

"Amount of most kinds of property arrived in the same time: 2,301 barrels salt; 4 barrels whisky; 531,061 pounds merchandise; 72,167 pounds furniture and baggage; 22,631 pounds sole leather; 600,671 pounds iron ore, 48,737 bushels wheat; 32,126 feet lumber."

Wheat was then 87½@$1 a bushel; potatoes were 50 cents a bushel; butter was ten and twelve cents a pound;

chickens and turkeys were each six cents a pound; pork was two and three cents a pound; eggs were six cents a dozen and cheese was six cents a pound.

It was during the early days of the P. & O. canal that James A. Garfield, later president, worked on the canals here. His itinerary was from Cleveland to Akron on the Ohio canal and then east on the P. & O.

During the same days that saw the courthouse squabble grow to its greatest heat and saw the events preceding and following the opening of the Pennsylvania and Ohio canal, other things were happening.

James Hammond started the first milk route.

A group of the families living on W. Market and Aqueduct sts., formed a company to distribute among its members, through pipes, the clear, sparkling water of Cold spring, on Spring hill. This was the first water company in Akron, unless one counts the fact that Dr. Crosby, who lived where St. Vincent de Paul's church is located, piped the waters of a spring on Perkins hill to his home and the homes of a few neighbors.

Horace G. Canfield started the American Democrat. Frank J. Kolb started a store. Akron Lodge, No. 83, F. & A. M., was chartered, and R. P. Spalding was made master. This was the first lodge in Akron, excepting the Hunters' Lodge, which, as has been explained, was a secret society formed to further Canadian independence.

The First Congregational church built itself an edifice at Main and Federal sts. The First Methodist church at the corner of Church and Broadway burned down, and a new structure was raised. St. Paul's Episcopal parish began erecting a church north of Market and west of the Ohio canal. Fathers Howard and Daly were working toward the building of a Catholic church on Green st. The Lutherans and the persons of allied creeds formed the German Evangelical Protestant congregation, with a place of worship on N. High st.

CHAPTER XVI

The Millerites

A GREAT many things were happening at almost the same time in the early Forties.

The North Akron Fire Company, Akron's first society of volunteer fire-fighters, was organized with 26 members.

The Universalist church held a mass meeting with delegates from all over the United States. Horace Greeley was here, and the empire-builders of the city showed their canal projects to that sympathetic spirit, and so greatly was Greely impressed that when he returned to New York he wrote, for the Tribune, a lengthy and enthusiastic article extolling the virtues of Akron and declaring that Summit City would become "The Lowell of the West."

Akron's first temperance fight came up, and was one of the factors in the great "Washingtonian movement," which had for its purpose the elimination of the sale of spirits by grocers. Akron consistently voted to refuse to let grocers sell whisky. L. V. Bierce was one of the prime movers in the Washingtonian movement, which resulted in forbidding the sale of liquor by any persons excepting licensed tavern-keepers and physicians.

The Collins Wagon shop, five years or so old, was doing a good business. James Christy started a tannery.

The Rev. James D. Pickands, pastor of the First Congregational church, became imbued with the spirit of Second Adventism, which was sweeping the coun-

try. William Miller, a Massachusetts farmer, had started this cult several years before, and was preaching the Second Coming of Christ and the end of the world.

The cult was very similar to the one which had much publicity several months ago, but it was much more generally accepted.

Pickands' views on the subject grew so warm that there was dissension in his congregation, the more conservative element withdrawing and forming the Second Congregational Church of Akron—the same organization which now is the First.

There was a question as to which element should retain the church. For a time, the conservatives moved out and worshipped elsewhere, but when it was shown that the land had been deeded by Gen. Simon Perkins for the exclusive use of the Congregational church, the Millerites withdrew and built a tabernacle on High st. opposite the site of the present courthouse. The Congregational church itself stood on what are now the courthouse grounds.

April 4, 1843, was the date set for the end of the world. The Millerites sold their goods, paid their debts, suspended their business and bought "Ascension Robes" to be ready for the great day. It came, but the world did not end. Then the "error" was discovered. The date was to be April 23, 1844. This was later changed to March 22. Still nothing by way of a cataclysm happened. The Millerites, however, continued to gain strength here and elsewhere. Many were the baptisms and testimonials.

A Cuyahoga Falls fanatic, interpreting literally a certain verse of the Bible, multilated himself with a plane-bit and mallet, and went insane.

"Spiritual marriages," to enter which women left

their "carnal husbands" and men their "carnal wives" were one feature of the cult. Long after the various dates set for the Second Coming had passed uneventfully—even after Father Miller (who paid Akron one visit) admitted his error and said "my labors are principally ended" the cult flourished. "Angel bands" of light-headed or misled women, each band in charge of a "saint" migrated from one town to another seeking "spiritual affinities." The Millerite men were brought into court, and ugly charges were placed against them, but they refused to "bow to the beast" and take the oath against perjury. One outraged hus-

Hall's Corners, Howard and West Market Streets, 1855. View shows the southwest corner.

band—a prominent Akron colonel—failing to get redress for the wrecking of his home at law, pelted his wife's "spiritual affinity" with rotten eggs.

The tabernacle was blown up one night. Nobody paid much attention to the explosion, because explo-

sions were frequent in the "powder patch" where Fountain Park is now located, and where there was then a manufactory of explosives. Nobody knows who planted the keg of gun-powder under the tabernacle, but an old canal boat captain told me with a wink of the eye that he would not be surprised if the canal boatmen had done it, inasmuch as they were an accommodating lot, and the Millerites had shown such a keen desire to soar into the heavens that the boatmen may have figured that the elevation of their tabernacle might satisfy some of these yearnings.

The Rev. Mr. Pickands, who had become the leader of the cult in Northern Ohio, finally recanted and went to studying law and later became editor of a paper devoted to wool growing. The Millerites who could not come back to earth after this joined the Shakers at Cleveland.

In the meantime, the courthouse matter was settled by a general election which Akron won with flying colors, and the courthouse was built on the grounds occupied by the present county structure. A jail was built nearby.

In the meantime, also, the biggest dream of Dr. Eliakim Crosby collapsed. The great Chuckery canal —which was to make Summit City the successful rival of all the other communities in Northern Ohio—was finished; the water was turned on; it flowed as the engineers had promised it would; there was ample water power; but there were no mills to use it.

The company, which had weathered one of the severest financial crises of the nation, had used its last resource to finish the work. It could not build a city. The enthusiasm of the Eastern capitalists who were originally interested had waned, and money was tight with them, too.

The trial of the canal demonstrated that more money would be needed to strengthen it at some places, and this money was not in hand. The matter descended into a bewildering litigation.

The Chuckery scheme had failed. Excepting for the panic of 1837-1847, the geography of Akron might be different, and its history different, too.

Dr. Crosby, ruined in finances, health and spirit, stayed on in the city a few years, and then moved to Wisconsin, where, in 1854, he died at the age of 75. These pages, which have told but a part of his activities, demonstrate how deeply Akron stands in his debt.

They were growing old at the time of the early forties—these men who had made Akron. Gen. Simon Perkins, the founder of the first Akron, the associate of Dr. Crosby in the establishment of the second Akron and his partner, too, in the Summit City scheme, died in 1844, 73 years old.

Judge Leicester King of Warren, who promoted the Pennsylvania and Ohio canal and who was associated in the North Akron and Chuckery projects, had become interested in the Free Soil movement, and was twice Liberty candidate for governor and was later prominent in national politics. He was Liberty candidate for vice president in 1848 and resigned in favor of Charles Francis Adams,

CHAPTER XVII

Other Events Of The Forties

NOR were the things which have been related the only events which were taking place in the thickly-crowded Forties. The Summit County Medical society was organized in 1842, probably the oldest in the state, and older than the state and national associations.

In 1845, the Bank of Akron was founded as a branch of the Ohio Safety Fund system. Its original capital was $50,000. William S. C. Otis was president and John W. McMillan was cashier.

In that same year Odd Fellowship was established here, Edward Ransom and eight other charter members organizing Summit Lodge No. 50.

Richard S. Elkins bought the Summit Beacon. Lauren Dewey, whom we have seen projecting the first paper in what is now Akron, became editor for a time, and then resigned to become warden of the state penitentiary. Then Dewey and Elkins sold the paper to John Teesdale, a former editor of the Ohio State Journal at Columbus, and Teesdale took into his partnership the firm of Beebe and Elkins, who had been carrying on a book and drug business.

In 1844 there moved to Akron a man who was then 44 years old and who had spent his younger life in Hudson and Franklin Mills, following the occupations of his father as tanner and farmer. His name was John Brown.

He had developed a fondness for thoroughbred animals, and it was this fondness which made him associate himself with Simon Perkins the younger—Col. Simon

Perkins—in the raising of Merino sheep on Perkins' farm on Perkins Hill. On the southwest corner of the intersection of Copley road and Diagonal road he built himself a house, which, in a remodeled condition, is still standing.

This venture with Col. Perkins was not profitable to either of the partners. John Brown was an excellent judge of sheep and wool, but he was not a business man. In 1846 he moved his family to Springfield, Mass., where he established a wool depot. A disastrous trip to Cleveland involved him and his partner in a loss of $40,000, and Brown retired from business life in 1849.

At about the time John Brown moved his family from Akron to Springfield, Mass., this city became widely known for its school plan. The Rev. Isaac Jennings, pastor of the Second Congregational church, known among educators as "the father of the Akron schools," was named chairman of a mass meeting to consider the evolution of a more definite school system. Previously, the schools had been conducted in a rather haphazard way. Akron was part of the Portage township district, and had two schools, one in South Akron (in a stone building still standing at Broadway and Buchtel av.) and another in North Akron, near to the place where the Pythian temple stands.

There were many private schools—high schools and elementary schools. No place in the state had a better supply of educational facilities. But there was a complete want of system. The Rev. Mr. Jennings and his associates evolved a plan for incorporating the whole village into one school district; for grading the schools into primary and grammar grades, and later providing a high school; for the election of a school board, and, what was most important, for free admission to all schools and the

support of the schools by general taxation. Henry W. King was one of the active advocates of the plan.

The plan was so concise, so simple, so practical that the original mass assembly, at an adjourned meeting, later in the year, promptly adopted it and appointed a committee to work toward the adoption of the plan for Akron by the state legislature. The next year the state legislature adopted the essentials of the plan under the title "An act for the support and better regulation of common schools in the Town of Akron." Later, the Akron Plan was provided for other towns of the state.

Two primary schoolhouses were built here, and the block between Summit and Prospect sts. on Mill st. was bought. The dwellinghouse on this property was fitted up as a grammar school and M. D. Leggett (who was later to be U. S. commissioner of patents) was made teacher and superintendent at $500 a year.

In 1846, at the time the Akron school plan was having its birth, just ten years after the incorporation of Akron, the town enlarged its boundaries to include the Perkins Addition, which comprised land northeast of Akron on the Little Cuyahoga river. Two years later, an addition taking in part of what is now West Hill was surveyed. In the meantime, the established industries were recovering from the effects of the Panic of 1837 and new industries were beginning to take shape.

In Middlebury, which was then still an entity separate from Akron, a cooper by the name of George Barber, who, at that time, had a son four years old dignified by the name Ohio Columbus Barber, began, in a small way, to manufacture block matches for local consumption. This was in 1845. This was not the first match manufacturing ever to have been attempted in what is now Akron. Seven years before, Samuel Alanson Lane and

Dr. James R. Miltimore engaged in the manufacture of "Loco foco" matches, but gave up the business in a year because of the expensiveness of materials. Barber's match enterprise, however, was the first successfully operated. In two years he gave over the cooper trade and concentrated entirely on the making of matches.

In 1847 Edwin H. Merrill, who had been engaged in Springfield township, first as a workman and then as a proprietor in a pottery, moved to Middlebury, and with his brother, Calvin H. Merrill, began manufacturing stoneware, bottles, clay tobacco pipes, etc. Some time later

"Parking Space" was at a premium on Saturdays, even in 1870. West side of Howard, looking south from Market.

they invented and manufactured a stoneware pump. The clay available was found to make an excellent and durable product. In 1849 Col. Reuben McMillan, David E. Hill and Robert Foster formed the firm of Hill, Foster and Co. and converted the "Black Mill" into a pottery.

We saw the beginning of the cereal industry in the

Thirties. Here we see the beginning of the clay and match industries, which were destined to have a large part in Akron's progress.

There was another industry which was important then. This was the woolen industry. The Perkins Woolen Mill was erected in 1845 on Canal st., between Mill and Cherry sts.

In 1848, another industry was established here. George D. Bates, Charles Webster and James B. Taplin organized the firm of G. D. Bates and Co., and erected the Globe Foundry for the purpose of manufacturing stoves. Webster and Taplin were millwrights. When it was difficult—as it usually was—to get castings and machinery, they made them at their foundry, and so it happened that in time the making of millwright's machinery overshadowed the stove part of the industry.

It was at about this time, too, that the industry which was later to grow into the Whitman and Barnes Manufacturing Co., had its inception. It was known for many years as "the knife works," because it manufactured knives, sickles, etc.

During the Forties there were several large fires. In 1844 the Ohio Exchange was a hostelry at the corner of Market and Main sts. Charles B. Cobb took over the property, and its name was changed to Cobbs' Exchange. Soon after Cobb bought it, the hotel burned down with a loss of $1,200. That same year, the large distillery of Hiram Payne and Edward Sumner, west of the Ohio canal, near Lock 21, went up in smoke.

In 1846 Frank Parmalee's tannery, near Lock 16, was burned to the ground. In 1847 the Aetna Furnace was destroyed by flames, and in 1848 the entire range of buildings at the northwest corner of Market and Howard sts. was burned out. That same year, a large section on

the west side of S. Howard st. burned and the next year the other side of the street had its big fire.

During this time, the fire-fighting equipment of the city was enlarged by the organization of the Niagra Fire Engine Co. No. 2 and the formation of a hook and ladder company, called Tornado Fire Co. No. 3.

In 1847 the town council granted permission to the Lake Erie Telegraph Co. to run its lines through Akron, and this business was conducted for a few years and then was discontinued.

The Mexican war in 1848 did not create much of a stir in Akron.

The Summit County Agricultural Society was organized in 1849 and prepared to give its first fair in 1850.

Akron, as it grew more established financially and industrially, became a less auspicious place for the blacklegs and counterfeiters. During this period Jim Brown, the counterfeiter, went to jail and the strength of his gang was broken. It was not until 1865, when he was killed in a fall on a canal boat, that his career in crime (interrupted frequently toward its latter part by periods of penal confinement) was finally ended.

CHAPTER XVIII

The Days Of Gold

THE gold rush to California welds together the Forties and the Fifties. It was in February, 1848, that Sutter's man Marshall found glittering particles in the sand of a mill-race, and the germ of a fever that was to fire the whole country was born. There were no telegraphic news-services to bring the word of such a discovery to the home of an Akronite on the evening of the same day. News traveled slowly. It was midsummer of that year before reports of the El Dorado were discussed on the street corners of this city.

In the middle of the following winter, the rush for California began. In the spring of '49, "The Akron Mining Co." composed of 15 Akron residents was organized and began the trip. The second company to be formed was the Middlebury Mining Co. These two companies chose the overland route. Going from here to Wellsville in hired wagons, they shipped by river steamer down the Ohio and Mississippi to St. Louis, then up the Missouri to Independence, where the trip across the great west began. They bought oxen, prairie schooners and mules, and went in trains, large or small, across the domains of the Indian to reach the land where nuggets were reported to lie upon the surface of the earth, easy to pick up.

In that same spring, another company of Akron and Summit county residents left by another route. They went to New York and shipped for the jungle isthmus of Panama. Here, poled up the rivers and

guided through the wilderness by natives, they crossed to the shores of the Pacific, and waited for transportation to the gold fields. It was often a long wait. Fabulous prices were charged for the passage, and where hundreds waited, there was room for dozens.

Many died upon the isthmus. Nicholas Rector returned to Akron later in the spring, and told of these hardships. His narrative chilled the hearts of those people whose friends and relatives were en route, but it did not curb the gold fever. The emigration continued throughout the year, and came to its climax in 1850. In all, some four hundred residents of Summit county went to the gold fields.

Among these was Samuel Alanson Lane, the young adventurer who had come to Akron to nip the blackleg, and had done it, and who was later to become sheriff, editor and historian. Those persons who will read his account of the trip and of the gold rush in general will find themselves well repaid. It is included in his "Akron and Summit County."

In the first three years of the Fifties several very important things happened. The first fair was held in 1850. The courthouse and its grounds were the scene of the event. The big item of the affair was the arrival from Tallmadge of a team of 34 yoke of oxen and a team of 15 spans of horses. On the two succeeding years the fairs were held at the same grounds, and then it was held on a six-acre plot in South Akron, donated by Col. Simon Perkins. This spot was used for five years, and then the 30-acre property of Summit Grove, on Ash st., where Col. Conger and Lewis Miller later built their homes, was leased.

Akron's population in 1850 was 3,266.

In 1851, a native of Celle, Germany, by name,

Ferdinand Schumacher, came to Akron and opened a store in the Hall block at Market and Howard sts. Shortly after, he moved farther up Market st., and conducted a very successful business. This man's coming to Akron was of a much greater importance than the city can have realized.

When the hard times of the panic of 1837 were left behind, railroad scheming, which had broken out in the late Twenties and the early Thirties with the

Howard Street, 1873, looking north from Cherry Street.

beginning of the first road at Baltimore, broke out afresh.

Many roads through Akron had been proposed, but the first that struck Summit county was the Cleveland and Pittsburg line, which ran through Hudson. The state legislature altered the franchise of this road to permit it to extend a branch through Cuyahoga Falls and Akron to Columbus. A company of Summit county people was organized, $100,000 of stock was

sold, and the new line was named "The Akron Branch of the Cleveland and Pittsburg Railroad."

On Independence Day, 1852, the rails had been laid from Hudson to Akron, and work was under way to carry the line on through Orrville and Millersburg and Mt. Vernon to Columbus. This was later called the "Cleveland, Akron and Columbus railway." You knew it as the C., A. & C. It is a part of the Pennsylvania system now.

At about the same time, what is now the local division of the Erie system was started as the result of the slight placed upon Franklin Mills (which is now Kent). The Cleveland and Pittsburg line missed Franklin Mills by two miles. The Hon. Marvin Kent, the dynast of that town, decided that this was not to be tolerated in silence. He set about having another road built to connect the Erie lines at Salamanca, N. Y., and the Ohio and Mississippi road at Cincinnati, and to pass through Franklin Mills.

After several changes of name, the road was finally called "The Atlantic & Great Western Railroad." Work on its construction was begun in 1854. The road was to pass through Akron on the right of way of the C., A. & C. Its completion is part of the story of the Sixties.

Thus steam entered the city of Akron. The black smoke of its locomotives, lying in languid curves on the quiet air of the morning, spelled the beginning of the canal's decline, and its sharp whistle hooted in derision at the plodding, slow-moving boats that went from lock to lock, drawn by straining mules and horses.

The effect was not instantaneous. The first railroads were not the efficient, speedy, well-organized systems that their children of today have become, and

commerce was growing swiftly with the gradual opening of the west. For five years after the opening of the first railroad, canal receipts continued to increase. What happened then will be told in its place.

Industrially, Akron was growing. The clay works were flourishing out in Middlebury, and the mills were doing a good business in Akron. There was still a business in wool.

In 1851 a thing happened which—if it were commented upon at all—was certainly not held of much significance here. Yet it was to change the character, the history and the size of the town beyond the wildest dreams of any empire-builder. Charles Goodyear discovered the secret of the vulcanization of rubber.

At that time, Benjamin Franklin Goodrich was a boy of ten years.

CHAPTER XIX

The Later Fifties

THE effect of the coming of steam into Akron was not instantaneous. The railroad trains of that early day were not the efficient, speedy vehicles that they are now. There were still advantages in shipping by water. Besides, commerce was growing swiftly, and there was business for the railroads as well as for the boats. This was true mainly of freight. With the coming of the steam cars, the passenger packet business was practically ended.

For five years after the coming of the first railroad, the canal receipts continued to increase. Then, in 1856, the tolls of the Pennsylvania and Ohio canal began rapidly to fall off.

This downward trend continued, and two years later the state legislature authorized the sinking fund commission of the state to sell the $420,000 worth of stock held by the state in the Pennsylvania and Ohio canal, a virtual signature of the canal's death warrant.

Men in control of what is now the Cleveland branch of the Erie, and what was then the Mahoning Valley Railroad (between Youngstown and Cleveland) were buying a great deal of the stock held by private parties. You may see in this fact the sinister tendrils of steam winding themselves about the canal system.

At about the time when the receipts of the P. and O. canal reached their apex and started on the downward trend, one of the memorable social events of the city took place.

The winter of '55-'56 was a severe one, and the sleighing lasted long into March. A frenzy for sleigh-riding came into the blood of the Western Reserve. First there were neighborhood sleighing parties, and then village sleighing parties, and finally there grew to be rivalry among the various villages as to which could turn out the largest number of rigs.

The village of Solon started this rivalry by driving through the other communities with a procession of seven four-horse sleds. Twinsburg fell into line with sixteen teams, and Bedford followed with thirty-two.

A banner was prepared as the prize. It was of white cloth, on which was painted a negro boy thumbing his nose and saying, "You can't come it."

Brecksville took the flag away from Bedford with a parade of forty sleighs. Then Royalton descended on Brecksville with sixty-three. It passed from these hands into the possession of Independence and then into that of Boston township. Hudson, with seventy-one, next took it, and then Richfield produced seventy-three sleighs.

Then it became a county matter. Three counties, Summit, Medina and Cuyahoga were to contest for the banner. The place was set at Richfield and the date for March 15. Only four and six-horse teams were to be counted.

Four hundred and sixty-two sleighs with four or more horses in the traces were gathered together. Summit county, with 171 teams—twenty more than Cuyahoga and thirty-one more than Medina—took the banner, and it was carried to Akron.

Three days later, Medina pulled a surprise attack. One hundred and eighty-two four and six-horse teams from that county trotted into Akron, with a great jingling of bells and tooting of horns. Akron acknowledged its defeat, and turned over the banner.

Soon the snow was gone, and the contests were never repeated. So Medina kept the banner.

Here are a few of the other events which took place during the Fifties:

The Republican party was formed in 1855, and the Summit Beacon at once became the local journal dedicated to the principles of that party. In that same year, George D. Bates, of Kent, merchant, foundryman and railroad builder, opened a private bank on Howard st., with Gen. Philo Chamberlain as a silent partner. This bank grew steadily.

The same year saw the creation of the Liedertafel, the oldest club in the city of Akron.

During the year 1857, the Bank of Akron, having become involved in the affairs of the Akron Branch Railroad, went under.

In 1857 there were the following industries in Akron: two woolen factories, five flouring mills, a steam engine factory, a blast furnace, a mineral paint mill, a carding mill, a stove factory, besides several smaller plants.

In 1855, Lewis Miller, then superintendent of the Aultman works in Canton, invented the Buckeye mower and reaper. While he was perfecting his models, in 1858, John F. Seiberling, a young man of Norton township, invented the Excelsior mower and reaper, the first to have a "dropper."

In 1859, Ferdinand Schumacher, whom we have seen as a successful store-keeper on Market st., leased a small frame building on Howard st., and started manufacturing oatmeal, which was quite a new thing in America. During the first year or so he was able to deliver the products of his mill—which he called "The German Mill" —in a pushcart. But it was the beginning, however humble, of one of the city's greatest industries. While this was happening, Ohio Columbus Barber, a youth in his

late teens, was peddling matches for his father, and taking a keen interest in the business.

During these years of the late Fifties, one former resident of Akron was leading an exciting life. John Brown, who had retired from business activities after his disastrous enterprises with Col. Simon Perkins in wool, had interested himself in the Kansas slavery and border ruffian trouble, and had acquitted himself with honor at Ossawatomie.

In 1856, after visiting Boston, where the Emigrant Aid society helped him get contributions to the cause, Brown visited Akron again, and got donations of money and weapons to help in prohibiting slavery in Kansas and Nebraska.

Akron—like the rest of the Western Reserve—shared with its parent New England the most violent sentiments against slavery. During the Fifties one artery of the Underground Railway system led through Akron, and there were stations here and in other parts of the county. Brown had little trouble in getting help. Several packages of firearms, belonging to the state, disappeared mysteriously from the loft of the county jail, and it was hinted that they found their way into the hands of John Brown's men.

There was excitement in Akron in October, 1859, when word reached here that John Brown had captured Harper's Ferry and had himself been taken prisoner. On Dec. 2 of that year—the day of his execution—Akron mourned. Bells were tolled. The courts adjourned. Stores were closed and memorial services were held here and in surrounding towns.

CHAPTER XX

The Sixties

SENTIMENT here ran high against slavery during the lull between Harper's Ferry and Sumter. On April 17, 1861, five days after Sumter was fired upon and two days after Lincoln issued his call for 75,000 men, there was a great mass meeting of Akron citizens in which all factionalism was forgotten. Strong resolutions were adopted to condemn secession, rebellion and treason.

Akron, like the rest of Ohio, more than filled its quota under Lincoln's call. Three companies were formed here —A, B and C—but only two could be accepted under the limitation rules. Companies A and B were mustered in as Companies G and K of Regiment 19, O. V. I. The men of Company C were not going to be left out. They found service in other companies. A few days later Company A was lined up on parade on Market st., between Howard and Main, and received the admiration of the city. Gifts were presented to the members. The presents were mainly side-arms.

The two Akron companies had enlisted for three months, and at the expiration of that time, were reorganized, and served during the remainder of the war, seeing action in many battles, including those at Pittsburg Landing, Nashville, Chickaumaga and Atlanta.

Summit county furnished three companies of the Twenty-ninth regiment, Lewis P. Zuckley, captain of Company A, and the man for whom the local G. A. R. post is named, was made its colonel. This regiment was part of the Army of the Potomac. Later, it took part in the March to the Sea.

There were Akron men also in Company G of the

Sixty-Fourth O. V. I. and in the Sixth Ohio Independent Battery, which was attached to the Sherman Brigade. And there were men from Akron in the One Hundred and Fourth, and the One Hundred and Fifth, and in the three regiments of German soldiers.

The Second Ohio Cavalry was a regiment of Western Reserve men, and Summit county furnished one company. Besides these, there were many Akronites in the other volunteer infantry companies. Olin, in his history, has singled out four outstanding Akron soldiers who won recognition:

Col. George T. Perkins, who entered it as second lieutenant and came out as colonel; A. C. Voris, who rose from private to major-general; Judge Ulysses Marvin, who rose from private to major; A. C. Conger, who rose from second lieutenant to captain.

Akron was not standing still during the war. Samuel Alanson Lane, of whom much has already been said in this history, became editor of the Summit Beacon.

The Second National Bank was formed to take the place of Bates & Co., private bankers. The First National Bank was organized with Thomas W Cornell as president.

Ferdinand Schumacher, having already established a trade in oatmeal, added the manufacture of pearl barley to his activities and built the first of the great cereal mills on South Summit st., calling it the Empire Barley Mill.

The clay industry was doing very well, David Hill and Calvin Merrill having developed the manufacture of sewer pipes. David Hill is called by historians the father of the sewer pipe industry in America.

James B. Taplin withdrew from the firm of Webster, Taplin and Co., and established a machine shop with Hobart Ford and Alvin Rice, the partnership bearing the name of Taplin, Rice and Ford. This firm was interested mainly in manufacturing milling machinery.

Taplin's removal from the company with which he was first associated followed a fire which partially destroyed the plant. Lorenzo B. Austin bought his share, and the name of that firm was changed to Webster, Camp and Co.

A branch of the Aultman works of Canton was opened here under the name of Aultman, Miller & Co., to manufacture the Buckeye mower and reaper. Extensive buildings were erected on the east side of the railroad at Center st.

John F. Seiberling, having manufactured his Excelsior mower and reaper in Doylestown and then in Massillon, moved to Akron and organized the J. F. Seiberling Co. here. The shops were built on Lincoln st.

The Whitman and Barnes Manufacturing Co. was established, to carry on the business of the knife works, which had been in existence for many years.

C. W. Bonsted, John B. Houghton and Cornelius A. Brouse opened stores here in 1862.

The Howard St. Water Co. was organized to distribute the waters of a spring among its shareholders.

Akron was expanding in size. More territory had been taken in. Its population was growing. The coming of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway in 1863 with direct communication to New York boomed the city. Its population in 1860 had been 3,520. In 1864, Akron insisted on another enumeration, and found itself well over the 5,000 mark, and eligible under the new state constitution to the title of town. Early in 1865, the state legislature advanced the grade of Akron, and it became a town "of the second class." Akron took in still more territory, south and east.

The Universalists had decided to build a college. Akron was looked upon with favor as a site. John R. Buchtel of this city was the most liberal donor to project. A

site was selected—the cemetery hill on the Spicer estate, on what was then still Middlebury st., and is now Buchtel ave. It was decided to name the school after John R. Buchtel. Work was begun on a building.

By this time, the Mahoning Valley Railroad held not only the stock in the P. & O. canal company which had originally been held in private hands, but that of the state as well. The state's share—valued at the start at $420,000—was sold to this line for $35,000. Permission was given the railroad to abandon or lease parts of the canal as it saw fit. Much of the canal was abandoned. The section from the Ravenna summit to Akron was leased to the Akron Hydraulic Co., to re-inforce Crosby's Cascade race. The company tried to hold its charter by running a canal boat over the waterway a few times a year, but residents along its banks complained about the stagnant water, and indignant citizens began breaking the banks. Finally, it was abandoned—but the Cascade race continued to furnish water power to Akron factories.

The First Methodist congregation built itself an edifice where the Armory now stands. St. Vincent de Paul's church was built. St. Bernard's church was built. A Jewish congregation was organized.

Fred Horix came to Akron and started a brewery on Exchange st. The Akron City Times was established. The Germania came into being.

The Summit Beacon became a daily paper, under the name "The Akron Daily Beacon."

The Barber Match Co. was organized, with O. C. Barber as secretary and treasurer.

A. H. Commins and Albert Allen bought the Crosby Stonemill on Mill st., at the canal.

Akron was on the boom.

CHAPTER XXI

The Seventies

IN TEN years Akron had grown from a village of 3,520 to a town of 10,006. The Seventies were not destined to see this tendency relax. New things were to happen which were to keep the population growing, and the seeds were to be sown for the more tremendous growth which brought the total to what it is today.

The first of these was the introduction into Akron of a new industry. Dr. Benjamin Franklin Goodrich, of New York state, having tired of the practise of medicine, had engaged in the east first in oil ventures and then in the real estate business. In the prosecution of the latter commerce, he traded some real estate in New York for stock in the Hudson River Rubber Co., of Hastings.

This was his introduction into the rubber business. After moving to Melrose, N. Y., and finding that competition in the east was too violent for a small rubber business, he chanced on a pamphlet issued by an informal board of trade stating that the town of Akron, O., was eager for new industries and was offering advantages to prospects.

Accordingly, he visited Akron, and a meeting of prominent business men was held in the Empire hotel. Col. George T. Perkins was chosen by this assemblage to go to New York and investigate the rubber business of Dr. Goodrich. This was in the first year of the Seventies—45 years after the founding of Akron.

The result of this meeting and Col. Perkins' investigation was the formation of the firm of Goodrich, Tew & Co., the partners in which were Dr. Good-

rich, Harvey W. Tew (his brother-in-law), Henry S. Sanderson (son of a former landlady in New York), Robert Newland (his uncle by marriage), and David N. Marvin, Mrs. Goodrich's brother.

On four lots on the north side of what is now Rubber st. a two-story building was erected. It was finished in the spring of 1871, and the factory was opened. The principal products were rubber hose and rubber belting.

New clay companies were being formed at this time. In 1871 the Akron Sewer Pipe Co. was formed, being a direct descendant of the first company formed in Middlebury. In 1873 the Hill Sewer Pipe Co. was incorporated with David E. Hill president and general manager. In 1872 the Buckeye Sewer Pipe Works was organized, with J. H. Brewster as president.

The oatmeal business was growing. Robert Turner started a mill at the corner of Canal st. and Cherry, in 1870. In 1872 Ferdinand Schumacher's original mill on Howard st. was burned, and he erected a large plant at the side of the Empire Mill and called it "The German Mill."

On Independence day, 1871, the cornerstone of Buchtel college was laid. Horace Greeley, the famous editor of the New York Tribune, paid his second visit to Akron to be the principal speaker of the event. His lecture was on "Human Conceptions of God as They Effect the Moral Education of Our Race." In September, 1872, the college was opened to students, and 217 were enrolled. The Rev. S. H. McCollester was the first president of the college.

Four years before the Akron Germania had been established, and a short time after its inception, Dr. C. F. Kolbe became editor and proprietor. When Buchtel college was opened, he joined its faculty as professor of modern languages, and the paper was

transferred to the Akron Paper and Printing Co. with Paul E. Werner as editor.

During the late Sixties and the early Seventies it became apparent that Middlebury was losing out to its younger rival. Transportation facilities in Akron were much greater; its industries were growing. The shrewd business men of Middlebury had allied themselves with the activities of Akron. Akron capitalists in turn were interested in the Middlebury enterprises, and economically there was no division between the two communities.

Only a few years earlier, any suggestion for a combination of the two communities would have been laughed to scorn. Now it was seriously discussed—so seriously that in 1872 the matter was brought to a vote, and Akron voted 1,042 against 16 to annex its neighbor, and Middlebury voted 140 to 26 in favor of the annexation. A commission was appointed to adjust the matter of taxes and other points of difference, and in April, 1872, Middlebury became the Sixth Ward of Akron. This increased the population of Akron by 20 per cent.

Middlebury has not entirely lost its identity. For many years it was hazardous for a young man from Akron to go a-courting in Middlebury. To this day, the old-timers of the Sixth Ward speak of the business community on East Market st. between Arlington st. and Case av. as "down-town," and of Akron's down-town proper as "over-town."

In 1873 the panic which disrupted business throughout the whole nation had its effect on Akron. Manufacturers and merchants—everyone, faced hard times; growth was temporarily almost at a stand-still. But the trouble was weathered, and in the latter part of the decade the city resumed its forward tendency along all lines.

The Seventies saw many important and interesting events. They saw the postoffice moved to the Masonic bldg. at the north-east corner of Howard and Market sts. They saw the inception of the "Valley Railroad Co.," with J. F. Seiberling and David L. King on the board of directors, and the beginning and progress of work on that railroad, which is now a part of the B. & O. system.

They saw the formation of the Grace Methodist church, a lineal descendant of the Tallmadge, Brimfield, Mogadore, Pleasant Valley and Middlebury circuit. They saw the dedication of the new First M. E. church on the present site of the armory. They saw the formation of Trinity Lutheran church.

They saw these following developments: The formation of the Y. M. C. A. in Akron with rooms in the Academy of Music bldg. and the move to new quarters on the present site of the Central Savings and Trust bldg.

The organization of the county bar association.

The acceptance by the city of the Library of Akron Lecture association and the Akron Library Association and the opening of the first city library in the Masonic block.

The selection of the "powder tract," now Fountain Park, as a fair grounds.

The death of Gen. Lucius V. Bierce, Nov. 11, 1876.

The formation of the Beacon Publishing Co. by Samuel Alanson Lane and T. C. Raynolds to continue the publication of the Akron Daily Beacon.

The formation of the Werner Printing & Lithographing Co. in 1875.

The establishment of the Thomas Phillips Paper Co.

The organization of the firm of O'Neil & Dyas, progenitor of the M. O'Neil Co.

The installation of the first telephones in Akron.

The granting of a franchise to the Akron Gas Co. at $3.30 per thousand cubic feet.

The adoption of an ordinance for a municipal water works, which came to naught.

The removal of the Barber Match Co. from Middlebury to Akron, where it occupied buildings which later became the home of the Diamond Rubber Company, now part of the Goodrich company.

Akron's then new industry—the rubber factory—had tough sledding during the troublesome financial times of the middle Seventies, and it seemed that success would be impossible until George W. Crouse (pere) was persuaded to lend his financial genius to the undertaking. In 1879 Alanson Work was installed as superintendent of the factory. He reorganized and reconstructed the factory methods, and, with Crouse's improvements in the administrative and financial side, this contributed to an immediate improvement in the firm's condition. Alanson Work not only superintended the making of goods, but went on the road and sold them. At times, too, the plan worked the other way about, he returned with orders for goods that were not yet made, but he made them. The diversity of the small company's products mounted steadily.

CHAPTER XXII

The Eighties

THE first year of the Eighties was an eventful one for Akron. The Valley railroad (now a part of the B. & O. system) was completed during its first month and trains were first run on it to Canton in February. Its depot was on West Market st., beside the canal, and it thus entered into competition with what was left of the canal traffic.

Dr. Orello Cone came to Akron to be president of Buchtel college, which position he held for 16 years. The Rev. Thomas F. Mahar, D. D., the Father Mahar who was respected by all Akron regardless of creed, became pastor of St. Vincent de Paul's parish.

The Hower Co., John H. Hower and his three sons, bought out Turner's Oatmeal mill and began building this up to a prosperous business.

The firm of Robinson Bros. and Co., was operating six clay mills and owned the most complete and the largest stoneware pottery in the world.

The B. F. Goodrich Co. was incorporated to take the place of Goodrich & Co. The capital was $100,000, and the board of directors was as follows: B. F. Goodrich, George T. Perkins, George W. Crouse, Alanson Work and Richard P. Marvin, Jr. At this time the employes of this company, aside from the office force, numbered 55.

The Akron Water Works Co. was organized by M. S. Frost and his son. Council in the same year granted it a franchise to lay pipes for the distribution of the water and the company began at once to dig its mains. A large well was dug on the Mallison

farm, Wooster av., to furnish water, and a pumping station at this place and a reservoir on top of Sherbondy hill were built to make the distribution possible.

This was not the only public utility which was provided for in the Eighties. We have seen the Akron Gas Co. given a franchise for selling gas at $3.30 a cubic foot. Electricity was making its entrance into the speculations of the city fathers.

During 1880 a 210 foot iron mast was erected at the corner of Howard and Market sts. A wooden mast was raised on Buchtel college and a similar one was erected over the Central engine house, where the new city hall is now being bult.

The Howard and Market st. mast and the Buchtel college pole were each equipped with four 4,000 candlepower lights, and one 4,000 candlepower light was suspended from the tip of the engine house mast. It was believed that a condition approximating daylight would result from this illumination. Farmers out at Copley expected to be able to read the paper on the back porch at midnight by the aid of the Akron lights.

This system was used for four years. At the end of that time, the Citizens Electric Light Co. (Henry Robinson, president) contracted to light the streets and the public buildings of the city by the Thompson-Houston system—a light at each street corner.

The growth of the city—Akron's population in 1880 was 16,462—made public transportation a timely topic. The council, in 1882, adopted an ordinance regulating the operation of street railroads. The specifications included these provisions: Cars to be propelled by horse or mule power; the horse or mules to be driven at a walk in going around corners; signal lights on the cars and bells on the harness after dark. This ordinance was amended a year later to

provide that the maximum speed of the cars should be five miles an hour.

On April 16, 1883, a franchise was granted to the Akron Street Railway and Herdic Co. (Ira Miller, president; Will Christy,—later to play a large part in electric railways—secretary and treasurer, and John E. Metlin, superintendent) to lay tracks on Howard and Main sts., from the south corporation limits to Furnace st., and to operate horse or mule cars thereon for 25 years. These served the city until 1888, when the Akron Street Railway Co. bought the franchise of the horse car outfit for $30,000 in cash, $15,000 in stock and the assumption of $20,000 bonded indebtedness, and obtained a franchise to run electric cars in Akron. The new company erected its plant on Canal st., and in the fall of 1888 the first electric car was run out Market st.

In 1889 John F. Seiberling came into the major ownership of the Akron Street Railway Co., which had formerly been conducted by outside capitalists.

While this was happening, a change had been wrought in the B. F. Goodrich Co. Alanson Work died in 1881. Mrs. Etta Work took his place on the board of directors. George W. Crouse was elected vice president. Dr. Goodrich himself succeeded Work as superintendent of the plant. In 1888 Dr. Goodrich died at Manitou Springs. In 1881 the first addition to the plant was made. The next year another small building was erected, and in 1884 the hand presses for vulcanizing were replaced by hydraulic presses. In 1888 the first electric lighting plant of the company was installed.

These other events took place in the Eighties:

The Old Forge was annexed to Akron, and terri-

tory northwest and southwest of Akron was taken into the corporation limits.

The Pittsburg & Western railroad was projected and built, utilizing the right-of-way of the Pennsylvania and Ohio canal.

Dr. Samuel F. Findley retired from the position of superintendent of schools and Dr. Elias Fraunfelter left his job as professor of Mathematics at Buchtel to take his place.

Crouse Gymnasium was added to the campus architecture of Buchtel college.

The West Evangelical Congregational Society—parent of the West Congregational church—was formed.

St. Mary's church—the third Catholic church of the city—was organized, and a church and parochial school were built.

The First United Brethren church was organized.

The Y. M. C. A. moved to new quarters in the Kelly block and opened its first gymnasium.

The Children's home was established with quarters on Broadway near the county jail.

The Akron Law Library Association was incorporated.

Frank S. Pixley—who was later to become a famous librettist—became one of the leading figures in the Akron City Times.

The Second National bank consolidated with the Bank of Akron. The City National Bank was organized, taking the place of the City Bank and the older Exchange Bank. This is the parent of the present National City Bank.

John F. Seiberling organized the Seiberling Milling Co., erecting in East Akron a six-story cereal mill, which was later converted into an oatmeal factory.

Fire destroyed the whole Schumacher mill excepting the Empire Barley mill. Within a month after the fire, Schumacher had reorganized as the Ferdinand Schumacher Milling Co., and bought the Commins & Allen Stone Mill and proceeded to rebuild the ravaged plant.

The decade saw also the beginnings of the Enterprise Manufacturing Co., which was the result of the experiments with luminous paint made by the Pfleuger brothers. Luminous rosettes (headlights for horses) and luminous minnows were the first products.

The Tuesday Muscial club was organized.

The Diamond Match Co., a combine of 28 match companies, was formed in 1881. O. C. Barber was first vice president. In 1888 he was made president. It was thus that he earned the title "Match King" which he bore during the rest of his life.

CHAPTER XXIII

The Nineties

DURING the Nineties, Akron's population increased from 27,601 to 42,720. It made this gain in the face of the creation of Barberton in the early part of the decade and the panic of 1893. Barberton was surveyed in 1890, and in 1891 the first real estate was sold. O. C. Barber was the founder of the town. William A. Johnston, a young supervising engineer in the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Co., laid it out. Barber transferred his match industry to the new community, and this, with the creation of other industries there, gave it an impetus which caused Barberton to be known as "The Magic City."

While this was happening, Fred W. Albrecht came to town and opened a grocery store at the corner of Buchtel av. and Center st. This was the first link in the present chain of Acme stores.

A combination of all the principal oatmeal mills in the nation was effected under the name of The American Cereal Co. For eight years Ferdinand Schumacher was president of this company, which absorbed his mills and the Hower mills. Soon after the merger was completed, the main offices of the company were moved to Chicago.

Two railroads were built in almost parallel lines westward from Akron—the Pittsburg, Akron and Western and the Akron & Chicago Junction roads. Each figured on the Pittsburg and Western as an eastern connection. But when the two were practically completed, in 1891, it developed that the Akron & Chicago Junction road was in fact a part of

the B. & O. system, and that the B. & O. had the through line. This left the other road high and dry and without a link with the east. We know this latter road as the Northern Ohio line, now a part of the A. C. & Y. system.

The Cleveland, Akron and Columbus railroad (now part of the Pennsylvania system) built what is still used as the city's union depot in 1891. It was probably an adequate depot at that time.

The King's Daughters of Akron established a day nursery, taking rooms in a building which stood where the Y. M. C. A. is now located. A year later George T. Perkins presented the organization with a house at Buchtel av. and High st., and the organization was incorporated as the Mary Day Nursery, named in honor of Mary Raymond, Col. Perkins' first grandchild.

In the early Eighties, an elderly French eccentric, named Boniface De Rue, had left a little more than $8,000 for the establishment and maintenance of a hospital. For a time a hospital was actually conducted here—at the corner of Bartges and Bowery sts.—but this was discontinued, and the money placed in trust pending such time as more might be added.

In 1892 the City Hospital association was formed, with T. W. Cornell as president, O. C. Barber as first vice president, Henry Perkins as secretary and William McFarlin as treasurer. Cornell contributed $10,000 and Barber $11,000 and the first property in the present location was bought. The City hospital was opened in the fall of that year. Later in the decade, an operating room was equipped by donation and a nurses' training school was established.

In 1891 The Republican Publishing Co. and the Beacon Publishing Co. were united under the name of

the Akron Printing and Publishing Co. This move united the Akron Daily Republican and the Beacon. The Daily Republican was itself the result of a merger of the Daily Telegram (founded 1899) and the Sunday Gazette (founded 1878). The company issued the Akron Beacon and Republican, a daily, the Summit County Beacon, a weekly, and the Sunday Republican. In 1897 the Beacon and the Daily Journal, which had been founded by Charles H. Wright, were consolidated as the Beacon Journal. In the early part of 1892 W. B. and Russell T. Dobson established the Akron Daily Democrat, absorbed the City Times, weekly.

In the latter Nineties, Edward S. Harter and Fred W. Gayer bought the Democrat. R. T. Dobson acquired control of the Beacon Journal. He built a plant at the corner of E. Bowery and S. Main sts.—the same building which was to be the scene of the Crystal Restaurant disaster.

In the meantime, other things had been happening. J. F. Seiberling was granted a franchise for extending the lines of the street railways. R. J. Randolph was given a franchise to build a street car track to the fair grounds by way of Furnace and Main sts. Later, E. L. Babcock and Thomas F. Walsh formed the Akron Rapid Transit Co., and built a line to Cuyahoga Falls over what is now the "Mountain Line." This line was extended in 1895 along Bowery st. and out around Summit lake to Barberton. The Akron Street Railway & Illuminating Co. had obtained franchises inside the city, and was itself in the hands of a receiver. In 1899, the franchises were renewed, to terminate in 1924. Every present day reader of this history will remember the effect of that arrangement.

The Seiberlings had meanwhile built lines over

North Hill to Cuyahoga Falls. In 1894 the franchise for the Akron, Bedford & Cleveland line was granted and work was begun on its construction. This was the first long-distance electric railroad.

After the financial stringency attending the panic began to abate, business in Akron's various industries (which represented all the principal industries of the present city) began taking on a greater prosperity. The B. F. Goodrich Co. put up a large factory structure. The removal of the Diamond Match Co. to Barberton left vacant a factory building beside the Goodrich plant. In 1894 the Sherbondy Rubber Co. was organized under the direction of O. C. Barber and began operation. In 1896 the name was changed to The Diamond Rubber Co.

The streets and roads and lanes in the early nineties were thick with bicycles. The craze was on the public. The demand for tires for the two-wheeled vehicles gave the rubber industry the greatest push it had had up to that time.

Something new had happened in the meantime. The horseless carriage had come into being. It was still a curiosity, but there were men who saw its possibilities. When the Sherbondy Rubber Co. changed to The Diamond Rubber Co., it began the manufacture of tires for the newfangled go-devils. Two years later the company increased its capital, and the leaders became F. A. and W. B. Hardy, W. B. Miller and A. H. Marks.

In 1898 Frank A. Seiberling conceived the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., acquired the factory of the Akron Strawboard works, organized a company and started in. David E. Hill was president; George R. Hill, vice president; F. A. Seiberling, secretary and general manager, and Henry B. Manton, treasurer.

Shortly after, F. A. Seiberling resigned as secretary, continuing as general manager, and C. W. Seiberling became secretary.

Meanwhile, these things had been happening: The city limits were again extended.

The Church of Our Savior, Episcopal, was organized with the Rev. H. G. Limerick as pastor. He was later succeeded by Dr. George P. Atwater.

The public library moved from the Masonic bldg. to the Everett block.

The Cleveland Press had been sending down to Akron and Canton a paper containing news interesting to those localities. In 1899 the Akron Press was first published. It was edited here and printed at the plant of the Cleveland Press.

The Central Savings Bank was organized.

The Aultman, Miller & Co. plant was bought by the International Harvester Co.

The Dague Bros. store (now the C. H. Yeager Co.) was opened. The A. Polsky Co., which had been established in 1885, was doing a good business. O'Neil & Dyas, following a disastrous fire in 1889, built a new building in 1890 and changed from dry goods exclusively to a department store. Later the name of M. O'Neil alone formed the corporate name.

The East Ohio Gas Co. was granted a franchise, and 30 cent natural gas came to town.

The Spanish-American War was declared, and Akron's National Guard companies, B of the Eighth Infantry, and Company F of the First Regiment Light Artillery were mustered. Capt. H. O. Feederle commanded Company B; Capt. Herman Werner, Company F. Company B was sent to Cuba in the Santiago campaign.

The decade ended with a tragedy in Akron. On

Dec. 20, 1899, Buchtel college burned down. The entire building, its library, laboratory equipment and its collections of museum articles, were lost.

It had been a decade fraught with important potentialities. It saw Akron take hold upon the industry which brought it to its present size—the manufacture of automobile tires.

Achille Phillion's fantastic horseless carriage, drawing a crowd on Main st., might be the seal and symbol of the period.

CHAPTER XXIV

The New Century

WITH the coming of the Twentieth Century, Akron entered upon a period of phenomenal growth —growth which was to be startling even in the face of the gains the city had been making in the previous three decades. The seeds which had been sown by General Perkins and Eliakim Crosby, by Judge Leicester King, by Lucius V. Bierce, by the clay princes, Ferdinand Schumacher, Dr. Goodrich, O. C. Barber, Alanson Work, the Seiberlings and others was to begin bearing a rich harvest.

The "Horseless Carriage" passed out gradually as the motor car came in. The automobile, once a curiosity and then a luxury, became an ordinary necessity. Roads that had been impassable during three months of the year were paved. After the automobile came the motor truck, and it, like the lighter machine, needed rubber tires.

While this industry was still young, the navigation of the air became practical, and Akron, looking forward from sheer habit, entered the development of aircraft. Steadily, consistently, Akron moved toward the edge of its greatest boom. War broke out in Europe. The boom came on. The years which saw this development were rich with incident.

Even as the Nineties ended with a tragedy, the new century in Akron began with one. The night of August 22, 1900, still stands as the reddest in Akron's history.

On the evening of Aug. 21, a negro, about 35 years old, named Louis Peck, attempted to assault a white

girl-child of six years. Word of the crime spread over the city like wild-fire. At midnight the fugitive was arrested, and the next morning he was arraigned. Pleading guilty, he was bound over to the grand jury.

Sheriff Frank Kelley, anticipating that trouble might ensue, took the prisoner on the afternoon of Aug. 22 to Cleveland where he was placed in the Cuyahoga county jail for safekeeping.

The city was swept by impulses and rumors. In the dusk of the evening of that day, a crowd gathered before the City Hall (which stood then where the Akron Savings and Loan bldg. now stands) and demanded the criminal.

A number of city officials and the greater part of the police force were gathered inside the city hall, and during the entire affair which followed remained on the defensive. This fact brought severe criticism upon them later, the public sentiment holding that a positive effort to disperse the mob should have been made.

One of the barricaded policemen, losing his head in the excitement, shot into the crowd. Glen Wade, a ten-year-old boy who was standing on the street, and Rhoda Davidson, four years old, who was sitting in a carriage with her parents, were killed by this act.

The shooting of the two children—the only casualties of the riot—inflamed the mob, which by now was convinced that the prisoner actually was not in the jail.

Riot conditions prevailed about the city. Stores were broken into and looted—principally of firearms and cartridges. The mob itself did not number more than two or three hundred, but the streets were thronged by people who were attracted downtown from the residential parts of the city and from the rural regions hereabouts by the excitement.

The mob moved toward the county jail. It made a thorough search of this building, and convinced that the negro was not there, returned to the city building again.

Reports, which had been current all evening, that the prisoner had been taken to Cleveland began to be believed. But the mob was violent. It was not satisfied to swallow the disappointment. Explosives were collected, and the work of destruction began.

Columbia hall, standing next to the city building, was dynamited and burned to the ground and the city building itself followed the same fate. The police escaped through a rear basement entrance. The fire department was not allowed to combat the flames. Hose lines were cut. Firemen were held back with guns.

This was the climax of the affair. The crowd stayed to watch the fire, which burned long into the night. In the small hours of the morning, it began thinning out, and at 4 o'clock of the morning of Aug. 23, the destruction was complete and the riot had subsided.

Sheriff Kelley during this whole time was absent from his post and Chief Harrison of the police force demonstrated an absolute incapacity for dealing with the situation.

Company C of the Eighth Regiment of the state militia, summoned by Mayor W. E. Young, took charge of the situation at 7 o'clock of the morning of Aug. 23, and later in the morning eight more companies arrived. At the same time, correspondents from outside cities were arriving to write the story of the city's shame. Prominent Eastern newspapers devoted great space to the riot—writing their stories, as stories then were written, with a decided editorial touch and deploring the event.

Four days after the riot, with the militia still in charge, Peck was brought to Akron. He had been previously indicted by a special grand jury. While a C. A. & C. train waited he was hustled into court. He pleaded guilty, and was immediately sentenced to serve a life term in the state penitentiary. Years later he was paroled.

The militia withdrew on Aug. 27 and the civil authorities, who had established offices in the Schumacher building at Broadway and Mill sts. (where the water office is still located) resumed charge. Thirty men and boys were convicted of various charges in connection with the affair and given sentences of fines or state imprisonment. The round-up was practically complete, and the prosecution vigorous. It was as a result of this riot that John Durkin became chief of police, an office which he has held ever since.

Durkin and his officers, and also all regular and some special detectives aided in rounding up rioters indicted by a special ground jury immediately impaneled. Akron's leading citizenship was on this jury, which included D. C. Montgomery, A. H. Mallison, Frederick Deutsch, M. L. Sprankle, J. Asa Palmer, Israel Isbell, J. M. Laffer, F. G. Treesh, John Myers, B. Alleman, John Allen, J. S. Simonton, J. Park Alexander, J. M. Johnston, E. Rothrock. R. M. Wanamaker was prosecuting attorney, and Henry M. Hagelbarger special assistant.

The same year that saw the Akron riot saw the origin of one of Akron's greatest rubber factories—the Firestone Tire and Rubber Co. It was started in what may be described as a shed, and concentrated at first on manufacturing rubber carriage tires.

The history of this company, like the history of the Goodyear and Goodrich, is too well known to require a detailed account here. The years intervening

between that time and this have seen the birth of many other rubber companies. They were established by men who foresaw the great possibilities of the industry, and from humble beginnings they reached their present conditions. It will suffice to deal with the rubber industry as one unit.

The city, which opened the century with a population of 42,720 moved toward its 1910 total of 69,067.

The county outgrew its courthouse, and a new structure (the main part of the present building) was erected. The ruins of Buchtel college, destroyed by fire, were replaced by two new structures, the one which is still Buchtel hall and the other the building which was then the Academy and which is now part of the College of Engineering and Commerce.

The dormitories were not rebuilt, but William Pitt Curtis of Wadsworth donated $25,000 for the erection of a cottage where out-of-town girl students might make their home. The next building to be erected was the Knight Chemical laboratory. More recently, Carl F. Kolbe Hall was built to house Bierce Library.

Dr. Parke R. Kolbe became president of the college in 1913. In the same year the college was offered to the city as the nucleus of a municipal university, and the offer was accepted by popular vote.

The year 1913 was attended by two strenuous developments.

A small strike started at the Firestone Tire & Rubber plant. The I. W. W.'s came to town. The beginning of a social revolution was freely preached. Workers from all the great rubber plants walked out.

Strikers paraded the streets with I. W. W. ribbons upon their breasts. Pickets were set at the doors of the rubber shops, and crowds of strikers stood at the

entrances shouting "Go to work, you slaves," to those who refused to strike.

This attempt to organize the rubber workers was, like all previous and subsequent attempts, ultimately unsuccessful. At the end of several weeks the strike was ended.

In that same spring came a great flood. Akron was not as severely hit by this phenomenon as other cities, notably Dayton, but there was a considerable property damage here, and nearly all production was stopped for a day or two. Houses on the banks of the Little Cuyahoga were washed down the stream.

This flood spelled the end of the Ohio canal. In 1906, the state had begun the work of repairing the once important waterway. An enlargement of the canal was advocated, but state officials did not believe that an appropriation for such an undertaking could be passed in the face of railroad opposition.

The canal had its last great boom in the days immediately following the Civil War. Soon after that, steam asserted its definite superiority, and receipts had been falling off steadily.

When the flood of 1913 ravaged many parts of the waterway, it became apparent that a great sum of money would be needed to repair the damage done. The state apparently did not think the usefulness of the canal justified the expense. Since then, excepting for its use as an artery of water for commercial use in some sections, the importance of the canal has become mainly historical.

In 1900 the Northern Ohio Traction Co. (which became the Northern Ohio Traction and Light Co.) bought up the street car lines of the city.

In 1904 the public library moved to its present location on East Market st.

In that same year the Y. W. C. A. was organized and moved into the home provided for it by Col. George T. Perkins. The next two years the Y. M. C. A.'s present building was built by popular subscription, and the association moved in.

In 1904, following impressive dedication ceremonies, the present City Hospital was opened. Since then (in 1914-1915) the People's Hospital was established by popular subscription, and in 1911 the Children's Hospital was built.

In 1910 the Cuyahoga river was dammed at the Gorge and the N. O. T. & L. Co. erected a large powerhouse there.

In 1912 the city decided to run the water works as a municipal institution, and it has since then increased its facilities by moving the source of supply from Summit lake to Lake Rockwell.

In 1903 C. L. Knight and T. J. Kirkpatrick bought the Beacon-Journal from R. T. Dobson. In 1915 Mr. Knight bought out Kirkpatrick and assumed control of the newspaper. In 1911 the paper moved from its building at the corner of Bowery and S. Main sts., to its present quarters at Market and Broadway.

In 1916 W. Kee Maxwell and Ross F. Walker of Peoria, bought the Akron Times.

In 1907 the Akron Press was first published in an Akron plant, having been printed in Cleveland as an appendage of the Cleveland Press before that.

These developments are typical of what was happening in Akron in the days between the opening of the century and the entrance of the United States into the World War.

They do not tell the whole story; they are but lines sketched into a picture to suggest the whole. In every department of the city's industrial, educational,

social, commercial and municipal life, great forward strides were being made. The town was doing its best to keep up with its growth in population, and was not always succeeding.

CHAPTER XXV

The War and After

THEN the United States threw itself into the World War. Such excitement as had reigned here in the time of the Civil War and the Spanish-American conflict took possession of the town again, and there were many volunteers to the colors. Soon thereafter, the draft boards were organized under the direction of Len C. Koplin, and the machinery to provide manpower for the Allied forces was set in motion.

The exact number of men who enlisted in Akron is not known. Authorities in touch with the situation placed it at approximately 2,000. The draft boards inducted 9,512 men into the service out of 65,097 registrants. Of the men inducted, 8,988 were accepted.

The casualties affecting Akron are listed at the Red Cross headquarters as follows:

Officers' foreign deaths, killed in action: five.

Regular army's foreign deaths, killed in action: 12.

Died of wounds received in action: 7.

Regular army foreign deaths due to disease, accidents or other causes: five.

Domestic deaths: 14.

Enlisted Reserve corps, domestic deaths: two.

National guard foreign deaths, killed in action: nine.

Died of wounds received in action: three.

Died of diseases, accidents or other causes: four.

Domestic deaths: two.

National army foreign deaths, killed in action: 120.

Died of wounds received in action: 41.

Died of disease, accidents and other causes: 35.

Domestic deaths: 35.

While the young men of the city drilled in American camps and fought on European battlefields, war conditions prevailed in Akron.

The city consistently went "over the top" in the Liberty loan campaigns. The department of justice, aided by the A. P. L., was very active here, and kept the county jail crowded. "Meatless days," "heatless days," "breadless meals" and sugar rations were observed here.

In the meantime, Akron's factories were doing a business that even a year before was unthought-of. Akron came into its greatest boom. This continued past the Armistice, on Nov. 11, 1918, into the winter of 1920-1921.

Akron was colorful in the blackleg days of the Thirties, and during the Civil War days, and during the Nineties, but it was never more colorful than it was during its great boom. Men of every nationality walked its streets. Laborers wore silk shirts which cost $15 apiece and slept in rooms which they possessed by shifts. Rents went sky-high. The housing facilities of the city were inadequate by at least one-fourth.

Fortunes were made, and where fortunes had existed before there was increase. The streets of Akron were alive and busy at all hours of the day and night.

While these conditions prevailed, the most sensational chapter of Akron's criminal history was enacted. The Borgia gang, named thus from its leader, Rosario Borgia, which had been responsible for the murder of three policemen and how many other murders and felonies it is impossible to say, was broken up. Borgia and his principal lieutenants were sent to the electric chair.

Forty-seven years before, John H. Hunter was

executed on a scaffold in the county jail for the murder in Richfield of the father and mother of Chloe Gargett, who had jilted him. It was the first death penalty imposed in a Summit county court, and in the 47 years intervening between the Hunter-Gargett tragedy and the clean-up of the Borgia gang, there had been no other execution of the sentence of death. The Stone murders of Tallmadge, which are still spoken of by old timers, resulted in a life sentence for Romulus Cotell. There are people who still believe that he was innocent, although circumstantial evidence pointed strongly in his direction.

In the census taken in 1920, Akron had a population of 208,435. This great increase in growth made necessary much public construction work. The city offices, housed in a police station built in the first decade of this century and in rented offices in a downtown building, had insufficient space. The county offices were cramped. An annex was built to the courthouse, and a new city hall is now under construction. The North Hill viaduct, which had been talked of for 30 years, was built and dedicated with a great municipal celebration.

Agitation for a new union depot and a new postoffice have not produced any concrete results as yet.

In the fall and winter of 1920-1921 the great slump came. In the peak of the boom, two Akron newspapermen who had been born in the city and who had spent their lives in its journalism, sat down after press-time one evening to make a list of the city's millionaires. A doubt in the mind of either excluded any name from the list. When it was completed, there were 122 names on it.

Just two years later, the same two men could not be sure of 10 millionaires in Akron.

This exemplifies what happened in Akron. Many

of the smaller rubber companies failed. The larger ones weathered the storm in the face of terrific financial difficulties. Control of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. passed into the hands of New York bankers.

Great sums of money were lost in stocks and real estate equities. In the current phrase "the bottom dropped out of everything." At the start of the slump, Akron dropped to the nadir of possibility. Any movement whatever could not fail to be in an upward direction. The city did not stand still long. It began winning back to prosperity. The climb was gradual —at times almost imperceptible—but it was steady.

There are not as many millionaires as there were during the war, wages are not as good, the ditch-diggers no longer wear fifteen dollar shirts, but there are enough homes for all and there is a minimum of absolute want.

The public utilities (with the exception of the water works division of the city's service department) were unavoidably 10 years behind the growth of the city when it was at the height of its boom. The administrations since then have been taking advantage of the breathing spell to try to catch up.

The great slump has passed into history. Its effect is still with us in some phases, but the slump itself is gone. On the outskirts of the city, where the hay grew up beside the sign-boards bearing the names of unpopulated streets, cellars have been dug, and the carpenter's hammer fills the air with sound.

A sounder industrial prosperity is in the making. As long as there are automobiles, Akron will do a great business in rubber. And when the airship becomes as important a factor in transportation as the motor car is today, Akron will have a part in its industry.

In the meantime, several events have come which must be set down to preserve the continuity of our story. In 1925 the Scripps-Howard newspapers, a league which has owned the Akron Press since its inception, bought its competitor, the Akron Evening Times, and formed the Times-Press.

The state of Ohio went dry May 26, 1919. By a queer twist of the processes of the law, all saloonists who did not care to pay $305 extra taxes had to close up on May 24, which was a Saturday.

Of Akron's 178 saloons which had been open up to that time, all but 14 elected to close on Saturday night. The 14 which remained open were mainly barrel houses and places where wet goods were sold in quantity. And they were so sold in those remaining days. Private stocks were in accumulation.

Summit county at the time of the beginning of prohibition had 233 saloons. Besides the 178 saloons inside its city limits, Akron supported 13 roadhouses where liquor was sold. Barberton had 30 saloons and Cuyahoga Falls 9. Kenmore had three.

The Saturday night which saw the principal passing of the open saloon in Akron was marked by a great deal of public intoxication, but there was practically no disorder. Late in the afternoon of the last Saturday, many bars ceased selling drinks across the bar and accommodated only customers who wished to buy in quantity. Those bars which continued to do business were lined five and six deep.

The saloon passed, and in its place came the bootlegger, who is still active in the city's social and economic life. It can hardly be said that Akron, at any time since the closing of the saloons, has been a "dry" city.

"Some of the large downtown saloons have become profitable restaurants. Many out-lying saloons turned

to soft drinks. Three Akron breweries went out of business as such. One continued to make "near-beer"—one soft drinks and one ventured into milk distribution.

In 1925 Akron has 35 schools, including five high schools. The teachers' payroll is approximately $200,000 a month.

The population is now reckoned at 200,000, allowing for the exodus of laborers at the time of the slump and the subsequent increases. Akron is the 32nd city in the United States in size, and the 14th in industrial importance. Its death rate is one of the lowest in the world, averaging 7.9 per 1,000 in 1924.

Through the purchase by the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., of the Zeppelin industry, Akron has become the center of dirigible airship construction. Our rubber factories consume 45 per cent of the crude rubber produced in the world.

It is a home-owning city, 44.7 per cent of the families owning their own homes, 11 per cent better than the average for cities over 100,000.

We have 180 miles of paved streets, 355 miles of sewers, five miles of white-way lighting. A municipal golf course is in the process of establishment.

There are 166 factories here and their annual output is valued at $433,527,240. The ten banks had clearings totalling $395,360,000 in 1924.

Besides its rubber factories, Akron has the largest sulphur refining plant, fishing tackle factory, and one of the largest cereal mills in the world, and its clay and salt factories are still important. The total freight tonnage on the five railroads last year was 5,445,614. Nearly nine million dollars' worth of new buildings were erected last year.

One hundred years from now, another historian writing of Akron's second century of existence will have a story equally remarkable to tell.

PART II
Cuyahoga Falls and Silver Lake Barberton and Kenmore

Cuyahoga Falls and Silver Lake

By Orlando Wilcox.

THE early settlement of Cuyahoga Falls, and of what is now Silver Lake, are closely allied.

In 1804, Joshua Stow, who had acquired title to the Township of Stow through the Connecticut Land Company, entered into a contract with one William Wetmore to come from Connecticut to Stow Township, and to act as Agent of Stow. Wetmore was to have the township surveyed into lots one-half mile square, and was to act as Stow's agent in selling lands, for which he was to receive a commission. Wetmore was also to purchase 1,000 acres of land from Stow, to be selected by Wetmore any where in the Township, for which land he was to pay Stow $1.25 per acre. Wetmore came to Stow Township and settled on what is now the Moore Farm, adjoining Silver Lake on the east.

In 1810, Wetmore made a selection of his 1,000 acres of land. He took what is now the Moore farm, and the other parcels lying north of Silver Lake, including the old Graham farm. The lots, which he selected, fell short two acres of making the 1,000; and a memorandum was put on the back of the contract, and signed by Wetmore and Stow, showing the lots selected, and the shortage of two acres, for which a

credit of $2.50 was given to Wetmore. This original contract was in the writer's possession, and was turned over to The Summit County Historical Association several years ago.

Wetmore, in connection with Joshua Stow, immediately began improvements on the Cuyahoga river, building a dam just above the river bridge at Gaylord's Grove. A saw mill and grist mill were constructed and operated under the name of Stow & Wetmore.

William Wetmore had three sons: William, Ogden and Henry. After the death of the elder William Wetmore, the firm of Stow & Wetmore was continued, being then composed of Joshua Stow and Henry Wetmore. In addition to the mills, they established a store, which was operated for several years.

Henry Wetmore continued to reside in Cuyahoga Falls until his death in 1890, and he told the writer several interesting stories about the early life at Silver Lake and Cuyahoga Falls.

When the Wetmore boys were 12 to 16 years of age, there was a large Indian village at Silver Lake. These Indians were very friendly, and frequently came to the Wetmore home. There was one Indian girl, in particular, who was a frequent visitor at Wetmore's home. These Indians, during the summer season, wore little, if any, clothes. Mrs. William Wetmore undertook to teach the Indian girls to wear clothes; and one day when this Indian girl was visiting at Wetmore's house, Mrs. Wetmore fixed up some sort of a "Mother Hubbard" dress, made of red calico and put it on the girl. She wore this dress back to the Indian village, and the Indians were wonderfully taken with it. The next day a delegation of Indian women and girls came over to see Mrs. Wetmore, to find out how they could get some clothes to wear. Mrs. Wet-

more told them that if they would get some furs and pelts, she would go down to the store with them and trade these for calico, and show them how to make dresses. They did this and Mrs. Wetmore gave the Indian women their first lesson in dressmaking. The Indians knew nothing about sewing, and it was quite a job to teach them to use the needle. After that time, none of the Indian girls or women were seen without dresses.

While the Wetmores and Joshua Stow were running their mills and store, in about 1829, the first strike, which ever occurred in Cuyahoga Falls, took place. Whisky, in those days, was very cheap and very plentiful. About 25 cents per gallon was the regular price, and everybody drank whisky. Stow and Henry Wetmore, in their mills, employed about 40 men; and they paid off every Saturday afternoon, at which time they opened a barrel of whisky, and gave each man a bonus of a gallon of whisky. Cuyahoga Falls, at that time, was in Portage County and the doctors in this county had a convention at Ravenna in 1829, at which time they discussed the practice of drinking so much whisky, and decided to do what they could to get the people away from this practice.

Dr. Orlando Wilcox, then a young physician, was located at Cuyahoga Falls, and attended this convention. When he came home, he talked about this resolution to Henry Wetmore, who became interested in the subject, and after communicating with his partner, Joshua Stow, they decided to stop the practice of giving whisky to the men. On the next Saturday they paid off their men, but gave them no whisky. The men all went on strike saying "No whisky, no work." On Monday morning Wetmore told the men that those who wanted to could go back to work, but that

there would be no more whisky. About one-half the men returned to work, and the other half quit and their places were supplied by other men. This was probably the first strike that ever occurred in Cuyahoga Falls. A temperance organization was started about the same time, which was taken up in other parts of the State.

Henry Wetmore, in connection with the Hanfords, built a paper mill at Cuyahoga Falls in about 1830; and the first paper ever made west of the Allegheny mountains, was made in this mill. Henry Wetmore was married about this time, and gave his wife, as a wedding present, a bundle of this newly made paper, some of which, yellowed with age, is still in existence.

By reason of its splendid water power, Cuyahoga Falls developed as a manufacturing town. Nearby, in the township of Tallmadge, coal mines were opened; and a narrow gauge railway was built from these coal mines to the Falls for transportation of coal. This track was also used for the transportation of clay for the sewer pipe manufacturers later.

The Pennsylvania & Ohio canal extended from Pittsburgh through Cuyahoga Falls to Akron, and this canal business was extensive in the early days.

After the development of the paper industry, one of the next important industries was the making of sewer pipe. This was started by the Cooks, with whom H. B. Camp was later associated. The firm name was Camp, Cook & Co., later H. B. Camp, then Camp & Thompson, and finally the sewer pipe plants were taken over by Harry Thompson, who became a party to the sewer pipe combination known as The American Sewer Pipe Company, and this company took over the Falls plants and abandoned them.

During the Civil War an extensive industry grew up in Cuyahoga Falls in the rolling mill, operated by

Israel James, who made car axles. This old rolling mill was later converted into what is known now as the Falls Hollow Staybolt Co., owned by C. M. Walsh, which is largely devoted to making staybolts for locomotive boilers.

During the Civil War there also grew up a factory and business of working hemp and tow into products for army use. This plant was located about where The Marathon Tire & Rubber plant now is.

From a small start in making rivets, under the management of E. L. Babcock, a business was built up which was known as The Falls Rivet Company, and is now known as The Falls Clutch & Machinery Company. The rivet part of the business was transferred, a number of years ago, to Kent.

About 1875, the manufacture of wire was started, and this was developed by Seelah Reeve into an extensive business. The company became involved in litigation and the business was abandoned. Several years later the wire business was again revived and operated, for some time, under two or three different names, but the company was not sufficiently financed to carry on the work, and it failed.

The rubber industry got its first start in Cuyahoga Falls by the organization of what is now The Falls Rubber Company, which, at the present time, has a large factory, and is doing a prosperous business. A little later The Marathon Tire & Rubber Company was organized, and was operated until within the past year, when it was taken over by The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company.

One of the early industries of Cuyahoga Falls was originally known as Turner, Parks & Co., and later Turner, Vaughn & Taylor Co. It is now known as The Vaughn Machinery Company. This concern is

devoted largely to the construction of clay-working and wire-drawing machinery.

At one time a large chain factory was operated at Cuyahoga Falls. For several years a factory was operated by Thomas Bros., making crocks, jugs and earthenware of various kinds. This factory burned down.

In the early Eighties a large planing mill and lumber yard was operated by Harvey Snyder, South of Broad street. This factory was equipped with a large quantity of machinery and they produced and manufactured sash, blinds, doors and other wood products. This factory also afterwards burned down.

The flour mill industry, first started by Stow and Wetmore in the early days, has continued under different owners and management, and is now owned by C. M. Walsh, who also operates a lumber yard and planing mill in connection with it.

Just previous to the World War, a hardwood lumber business, which had been operated by T. A. Steele and associates, under the name of The Steele Bros. Hardwood Lumber Company was reorganized into a company known as The Steele-Alderfer Company, and a large and well equipped plant was constructed. During the World War, this Company did an extensive business in getting out black walnut lumber for the government for gun stocks and aeroplane propellers. At the close of the war, the plant was very largely expanded and took on for a time, the operations of a general lumber yard. After the financial depression in 1920, the retail lumber business was abandoned, and the business was reorganized under the name of The Silver Lake Hardwood Company. This company is now doing a large business.

A foundry business was started, just prior to the World War, at the North End of Cuyahoga Falls. It

was first known as the Nute Foundry. The buildings of this company were destroyed by fire, and were rebuilt by another company, but have never been operated.

Prior to and during the Civil War, there was a distillery located on the East side of the river which did an extensive business. This was owned largely by T. M. Cornell and it is said that during the Civil War, after the high revenue taxes were put upon whisky, that large quantities of whisky were spirited away from Cuyahoga Falls to Cleveland, in the night season, to avoid the payment of taxes.

In the early Thirties a scheme was evolved, to utilize the water of the Cuyahoga river for an elaborate water power system, which was to supply a city to be located on what is now Cuyahoga st., in Akron. The city was to be known as "Summit City." A dam was built near The Marathon Tire & Rubber Company dam, and a race was constructed along the southerly side of the Cuyahoga river, to take the water down, below where the High Level bridge is now located, and to carry it around the hill to the proposed site of "Summit City." This race was completed, and water turned into it, but in those days they had not learned the use of cement in construction of walls, and there was so much leakage, that the transportation of the water was not a success. About this time the panic of 1837 struck this country, and this hydraulic race was abandoned. This race and manufacturing scheme were owned and operated by The Portage Canal & Mfg. Company. They had purchased a large tract of land along the river, and had given mortgages aggregating about $150,000. These mortgages were foreclosed in 1850 and the property sold at sheriff's sale, but the remains of the old race are still visible, and The Northern Ohio Traction & Light

Company have a switch track, from their power house down the river, located in this old race way.

In about 1880, L. W. Loomis and Harvey Parks started a pleasure resort, known as the "High Bridge Glens." Their buildings, located on Front st., just south of Prospect, consisted of a large pavilion, roller coaster, and other buildings, with paths down into the gorge. A foot bridge was constructed across the river, and the old race way was used as a path over which excursionists walked down the river. This resort became very popular, and it was not unusual for sixty car loads of excursionists to come to the Glens in a day. The resort at Silver Lake was operating at the same time, and during the picnic season, a large number of hacks and busses carried passengers back and forth between the two places with the dust from 6 to 8 inches deep. This roller coaster, built at the "High Bridge Glens," was the first roller coaster built, so far as is known; and it is said that the first day it operated, the receipts taken in were $2500. This resort was finally taken over by a corporation known as The High Bridge Glens Company, but it had become unpopular, because of the sale of liquor, and was abandoned.

During the panic of 1837, above referred to, money was very scarce and a scheme was promoted at Cuyahoga Falls known as "The Cuyahoga Falls Real Estate Association" which might be denominated "High Finance." This young manufacturing town was greatly in need of money. Its paper mills were making paper, and someone conceived the idea of converting some of this paper into money, by the use of a printing press. In April, 1838, one Robert McCaughy and others formed a voluntary association, known as "The Cuyahoga Falls Real Estate Association," for the purpose of creating a circulating medium, consisting

of orders of various denominations. The members gave mortgages on their real estate to William Turner, Birdsey Booth and Grant B. Turner as trustees, for which mortgages this script was issued, and turned over to the mortgagors, who used it as money. The whole scheme was illegal and in the early Forties some of the holders of the money undertook to enforce the mortgages, and they were held illegal. Ten thousand dollars or $15,000 of this worthless paper was in circulation and the holders appealed to the legislature of Ohio, which on March 4, 1845, passed an act by which Ira Loomis and S. W. McClure were appointed as trustees for the creditors of this association, to collect these mortgages and to redeem the money. This act further provided that, should either of said trustees die or remove from the state, the Court of Common Pleas of Summit county could appoint a successor, on the application of any interested party. The remarkable feature of this act was, that it provided that it should be unlawful to claim that the indebtedness was void as against public policy. After the passage of this act, a suit was begun by Samuel McClure and Ira Loomis, trustees against Robert McCaughy, the leading promoter of the scheme, to foreclose his own mortgage, and to make him pay his proportion of the expense of the organization. He contested this suit, and claimed that the special act of the legislature was unconstitutional. It was so held in the lower courts; but in 1853, the Supreme court held that the law was constitutional in a remarkable opinion rendered by Allen T. Thurman. Judge Thurman held that this law was retroactive, but that the legislature had a right to waive public policy. By this time the old creditors had mostly forgotten their losses, and nothing further was done. The writer has a $2.00 bill of this old association which he used a few years ago in

a court proceeding to have a trustee appointed to cancel one of these old mortgages, and A. H. Engelbeck, an attorney of Akron, is now trustee for that purpose.

What is now known as Silver Lake remained entirely undeveloped until about 1875, when R. H. Lodge acquired title to the lake, and also to the lands on the westerly side thereof. He immediately developed this into a pleasure resort, which became very popular. Before his death, the business and property were transferred to a corporation known as "The Silver Lake Park Company."

About 1893, T. F. Walsh, E. L. Babcock and associates, who constructed what was known as the Rapid Transit Railway line from Akron to Ravenna, acquired title to a tract of land lying northerly from Silver Lake. They converted this tract into a pleasure Resort known as "Randolph Park." A pavilion and a large theatre building were constructed at this resort, and many improvements were made. A street car line was constructed, around the east side of Silver Lake, by which street cars were run into this resort. After the sale of the Rapid Transit lines to The Northern Ohio Traction & Light Company, The Silver Lake Park Company acquired title to the Randolph Park resort, and it was operated, for several years, in connection with the Silver Lake resort, and was known as the Chautauqua grounds, the theatre building being used as a Chautauqua assembly hall. Afterwards the Chautauqua was abandoned,the pavilion building was moved across the ice of the lake and converted into a bath house, and the theatre building was torn down.

About the year 1918, The Silver Lake Park Company sold out its holdings to a land company, and the pleasure resort was abandoned. The Village of

Silver Lake was organized; a boulevard system was laid out and paved and a number of very fine homes have been built on these grounds. Within the past five years, Silver Lake has gained a reputation, by reason of the activity of its officers, in enforcing the prohibition law throughout the county. It is said that the bootleggers running from Pittsburgh to Akron, and other places, learned to avoid passing through Silver Lake village. In the easterly part of the Village of Silver Lake was a sign, which read, "Silver Lake Village." Some bootleggers desecrated this sign by painting over the word "Village" and inserting the word "Hell."

Among the men, prominent in the early history of Cuyahoga Falls, should be mentioned Elisha N. Sill, who was prominent in building up the town, and had an active part in connection with that portion of Cuyahoga Falls which was taken from Tallmadge township. The old Sill home, a large brown stone house, located on the west side of Front st., is a monument to Elisha N. Sill; and his daughter, Elizabeth Newberry Sill, now resides in this home. The old Newberry home, at the east end of Broad st., which was afterwards known as the Cook home, and originally an extensive brown stone mansion, was, for a few years operated as a "Keeley Cure," and in 1894, was converted into a sanitarium known as "Fair Oaks Villa," which is still operating.

Taking up the town organization, Cuyahoga Falls was first organized as a corporation in 1836, known as the "Town of Cuyahoga Falls." A large part of the inlying lands were allotted at that time, and what is known as the public square, located on the northerly side of West Portage st., was dedicated to the public for state, county and church purposes. Three churches are now located on this square. The town of Cuya-

hoga Falls was operated as a municipal corporation until about 1848, when the incorporation was abandoned, and by an act of the Legislature the township of Cuyahoga Falls was organized, taken from the townships of Stow, Tallmadge, Portage and Northampton. This township organization was continued until 1868, when the Village of Cuyahoga Falls was incorporated covering the same territory. This village organization continued until the census of 1920, when the population had increased to a point where it automatically became a city. It is now the City of Cuyahoga Falls.

During the years from 1910 to 1920, there was an extensive development in population, and this growth has continued to the present writing. The population is now over 12,000. As a residence section it is unsurpassed.

The first railway constructed through Cuyahoga Falls was known as the Akron branch of The Cleveland-Pittsburgh railway. It was constructed from Hudson to Akron in about 1852. This developed into The Cleveland & Mt. Vernon Railway Company and later into The Cleveland, Akron & Columbus Railway Company, and is now part of the Pennsylvania system.

About 1882, The Pittsburgh, Cleveland & Toledo Railway Company constructed a line, through Cuyahoga Falls, from New Castle to Akron, using the bed of the old Pennsylvania & Ohio canal as a right of way. This railway is now a part of the B. & O. system.

In 1852, soon after the construction of the railroad from Hudson to Akron, occurred what is commonly designated as the Parks-Beatson murder in Cuyahoga Falls. Beatson was a cattle buyer whose headquarters were in Cleveland. Parks was sort of a roust-about who would now be denominated a ban-

dit. Parks met Beatson in Cleveland and they drank together heavily. Beatson intended to start, that afternoon, for Pittsburgh, to buy cattle. He had with him a considerable sum of money. Parks persuaded Beatson to take him along, and they took a train from Cleveland to Pittsburgh. When the train reached Hudson, Beatson was under the influence of liquor to such an extent that Parks got him off the Pittsburgh train, and they boarded a train which ran from Hudson south through Cuyahoga Falls. Before they reached Cuyahoga Falls, the conductor discovered that they were on the wrong train as their tickets were for Pittsburgh and they were put off the train at Cuyahoga Falls early in the evening. They wandered over to Front st., into the hotel, and made inquiries about the way to get back to Hudson. They found that there was no way of getting back there by train until morning. Beatson wanted to stay all night, but Parks persuaded him that they could walk back to Hudson that night. They left the hotel, in the evening, on foot. They evidently followed the railroad track north. When they reached the point in the north end of the village, where the road goes under the railroad to cross the river at Gaylord's Grove, Parks killed Beatson, by throwing him from the railroad to the cut below, and dragged his body onto the bridge, at which point the head was severed from the body, and the body thrown into the river. In the morning some one, crossing the bridge, noticed a trail of blood, and a place where a body had evidently been thrown into the river. A crowd congregated, dragged the river, and found Beatson's body except the head. The head never was found. Parks was trailed down the canal toward Akron, where he had hired a man to drive him to Cleveland. This rig was followed to Cleveland, and Parks was traced to Buf-

falo, where he was arrested. He had a woman with him in Buffalo, and on the person of this woman they found the money which had been stolen from Beatson. Parks was brought back to this county and tried for murder. He was convicted, and sentenced to be hanged, but afterwards got a new trial. Some interesting testimony was offered at the trial. Parks, at the second trial, admitted that he threw the body into the river, but claimed that Beatson fell off the railroad and when he struck the road below, he broke his neck. Parks claimed that he was afraid they would accuse him of murdering Beatson, so he dragged the body out onto the bridge, and cut the head off, and threw the body into the river. He claimed he put the head into the canal. Physicians who examined the body after it was found, testified that the muscles of the neck showed that the head was cut off before death. Parks was hanged in Akron for this murder. The sheriff, S. A. Lane, had the money which was taken from Parks when he was arrested, and the woman who was arrested with Parks brought suit against Lane to recover the money. A full account of this crime is given in "Lane's Fifty Years in Summit County."

Among the prominent characters in the history of Cuyahoga Falls should be mentioned Almeda Booth, who was a Cuyahoga Falls girl, and a natural born teacher. In the early days she became a teacher in Hiram College. Among her pupils there was James A. Garfield, who was afterwards president of the United States. She continued to teach in this college until her health failed, after which she came back to Cuyahoga Falls. Her salary was such that she was poor. She was finally sent to Cleveland, to a hospital, through the generosity of her former pupils. She died in Cleveland during the time that Garfield was president of the United States. Her body was brought

to Cuyahoga Falls for burial, and Garfield came from Washington to attend her funeral, at which he made a short address. He afterwards wrote a memorial to her, which was delivered at Hiram College. He said of her that she was the inspiration of his early college life. This memorial is contained in a book, now in the Public Library at Cuyahoga Falls, entitled "The Life and Work of Almeda Booth." The old Booth home was located on South Front st., about where The Falls Engineering & Machine Company is now located.

Edward Rowland Sill, the poet, was born in Windsor, Conn., in 1841. His parents died when he was young, and he came to Cuyahoga Falls and made his home with Elisha N. Sill, his uncle. He graduated at Yale College, and early developed poetical tastes. He married Elizabeth N. Sill, a daughter of Elisha N. Sill. He continued his writings, and for a time lived in California. He died in 1887; and his widow, Elizabeth N. Sill, is still living. The literary world did not recognize the value of Sill's writings during his lifetime but, as time passed on, his poems became the subject of many literary articles, and in 1915, his life work, written by William Belmont Parker, was published, and this book is also in the Cuyahoga Falls Public library.

To the generosity and thoughtfulness of William A. Taylor and his wife, and Mrs. Elizabeth N. Sill, Cuyahoga Falls is indebted for this public library which is a substantial brick building and contains many useful and interesting books.

Among the early attorneys in Cuyahoga Falls were Samuel W. McClure, afterwards Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and Virgil P. Kline, and Henry McKinney. McClure was the elder attorney; and both McKinney and Kline read law with him. Kline was

employed as superintendent of schools, and while acting as superintendent of the schools, he studied law. He afterwards moved to Cleveland, and was the personal attorney of John D. Rockefeller and of The Standard Oil Company. McKinney also moved to Cleveland later, and was Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Cuyahoga County. All three of these men were brilliant lawyers. An interesting story is told about Samuel W. McClure—That in the early days of his practice he had a client, a young fellow who had been arrested and whose bond for $300 he signed. The young fellow had a tract of wild land in Michigan which he deeded to McClure to cover liability on the bond. The young fellow fled the country and died. McClure paid the bond, and paid taxes on this land for a number of years. Finally he received a letter from a party wanting to buy this land. He knew nothing about it, but thought if somebody wanted to buy it, he had better investigate. He went to Michigan, and found that two railroads had been constructed which crossed each other right at the corner of this land, and that a town was springing up at this point. McClure laid out this land into lots and put them on the market. It is said that the sale of those lots netted him a large sum. The old McClure home in Akron was located on East Market st.

During the Civil War, Cuyahoga Falls sent a very large quota of men to the front. Battery D of the Ohio First Artillery was largely made up of men from Cuyahoga Falls and vicinity. Ohio two members of this Battery are living at this date: Dr. W. S. Hough and Josiah Brown. Among the soldiers from Cuyahoga Falls who became noted are the Eadie boys, both of whom lost their lives in the service. The G. A. R. Post of Cuyahoga Falls, was named the Eadie Post after these two boys. The old Eadie home was

located on Front st., right where the Standard Oil filling station is now located.

One of the old monuments of Cuyahoga Falls was what was called the "Big Spring" which was located on the east side of Front st., just north of Wadsworth st. This was a large spring of very fine soft water. It was enclosed with a wall with an opening about 15 feet across; and in the old days, when wells and cisterns were depended upon for water, large quantities were hauled from the spring in barrels to supply domestic purposes. After the water works system was inaugurated, this spring was tapped as one of the sources of supply of water, and the old wall enclosure was destroyed. The building of the main sewer on Front st., in front of this spring, tapped the veins of water, and carried off large quantities of it, and the spring is gone.

Among the older buildings still standing at Cuyahoga Falls is the hotel on the corner of Portage and Front sts. This building has been remodeled, and the rear portion of it burned, a few years ago, but the main part of the building is still what was known as the "Old Tavern."

Another old building is situated on the Tifft & Vogan property, on the east side of Front st.—a large old frame building which was formerly known as Mechanics' Exchange building. It is said that the Mechanics here, years ago, had an organization, who held meetings in the upper part of this building.

The L. W. Loomis block, on the corner of Portage and Front sts., is among the oldest brick buildings, and the three story Apollo block, on the opposite corner, constructed by Israel James, is one of the older buildings, which have been well preserved. Most of the very old buildings have disappeared within the last few years by reason of new construction. One

of these old buildings was originally built as an insurance company headquarters, and afterwards turned into a store on the ground floor and the upper floor was used for residence purposes. It was known as the Jones block or Alhambra building.

Among the older residences are the E. N. Sill home on Front st., and the old Newberry home on East Broad st., both of which have been previously mentioned. Both of these homes were constructed of a reddish brown sandstone, of very fine quality, which was quarried on the bank of the Cuyahoga river, just where the "High Bridge Glens" was formerly located.

When Summit County was organized in 1840, Cuyahoga Falls was first chosen as the location of the County seat and it was nearer the center of the county than Akron. A site for the court house was selected on Broad st.; but Simon Perkins and some other Akron people offered to donate a site, with some other inducements, which resulted in the location of the county seat in Akron.

There was an old stage route or trail, on which travel from Pittsburgh west came through Cuyahoga Falls, and continued west out what is now Northampton av., and down to Old Portage, and from Old Portage west. This road from Old Portage west became known, and is now known, as the Smith road. It is said that in early days General Smith passed over this route with a body of soldiers in some of the Indian wars.

Barberton and Kenmore

By William A. Johnston

THE date of Akron's centennial celebration marks the thirty-fifth year since I came to this city to meet the late Ohio Columbus Barber in reference to planning and laying out a new town. To cover this most interesting period of thirty-five years of the great development of Barberton and Kenmore with a limited number of words is a great task. I must necessarily eliminate much detail, omit specific dates of many interesting incidents and events, and delete much that is customary in writing the history of cities. I am not a historian, and must, therefore, write the story more along the lines of personal reminiscences.

In order that I may qualify as to my fitness for this work, I deem it necessary to go back a few years before coming to Barberton. I entered the Engineering department of the Pennsylvania railroad in the year 1880, under Mr. Samuel Rea (now president of that railroad) at the age of 15. Mr. Rea had charge of a survey in my home county of Westmoreland, and made his headquarters in my home city, Greensburg, Pa. My work for the next ten years was varied. My promotions came frequently, I believe not so much for my engineering abilities as for the fact that I had, from the very first, shown some natural ability in draftsmanship. Mr. Rea, who was one of the best draftsmen I have ever known, was the first to recognize this talent. My first job on the engineer corps was back flagman and general utility boy. I was the last man to follow the newly staked survey.

I soon noticed that the back chainman, whose duty

it was, in addition to holding the chain, to print the numbers and letters on the stakes, was doing what I thought was a very poor job. So I procured a piece of red keel and began practicing on old stakes, pieces of stone, boxes, paper, and anything which would take keel figures. Our transit man saw some of my figures and one morning asked me to mark a few stakes before they started to work. I felt highly complimented and did my very best in printing the figures on quite a number of the stakes. Each morning and noon thereafter I would mark the stakes. About the third day, Mr. Rea came out over the survey line and shortly after he passed me and reached the transit man, I was called up and told by the latter to take the rear end of the chain, and the former rear chainman was sent back on my old job.

That was my first advancement. The transit man told me some time later that Mr. Rea had noticed the difference in the printing of the figures on the stakes, and when he met the transit man, asked him why some of the stakes were marked so plainly, while others could scarcely be read. The transit man explained, and Mr. Rea gave the order to bring me up and give me the rear chainman's job.

Mr. Rea at that time was only 25 years old, and he too, had started to work for the Pennsylvania railroad at the age of 16. He now has nearly reached the retirement age of 70 years, and retires this coming August.

Oh that I were young again.
Give to me my sixteenth Spring,
I'd rather reign a fair-haired boy,
Than reign a gray-haired King.

My old room mate at Altoona and Philadelphia, General Wallace W. Atterbury, will take Mr. Rea's place. The years of association, and to have known

these two railroad men, mark that period as the proudest of my business life. The ten years in the Pennsylvania railroad service covered all kinds of railroad engineering. I served under every superintendent from Pittsburg to New York, and had charge of the elimination of grade crossings in West Philadelphia, at the time of my resignation to accept the position tendered me by Mr. M. J. Alexander, a most versatile business man, and civil engineer from old Virginia, who had gleaned his vast store of practical town building methods from his experience in helping to build the many new towns and cities along the route of the Norfolk & Western railroad in the boom years from 1880 to 1888, and who had successfully promoted the new towns of Jeannette and Charleroi, Pa.

In promoting the new glass town of Charleroi, Mr. Alexander interested the late Col. Geo. T. Perkins, Geo. W. Crouse and Dr. Chandler, all of Akron. Later, O. C. Barber, Geo. W. Crouse, Col. Perkins, Chas. Baird, A. T. Paige, Wm. McFarlin, Thos. W. Cornell and John K. Robinson, decided to form a company to manufacture soda ash. They selected a site in Norton township, just south of the village of New Portage, embracing about ten adjoining farms, with a total of 550 acres of land. Mr. Barber, acting for his associates, employed Rueben Tate, Akron liveryman, to take options on the farms. After Mr. Tate had secured the options at a price satisfactory to Mr. Barber, the latter then employed Mr. Van Campen, an experienced well driller, who had shortly before drilled the wells for the Wadsworth Salt Co., at Rittman.

Van Campen drilled the first salt well, just south of the Erie tracks, and opposite the Rubber Products company, in the early spring of 1890. There were several veins, making a total of about 60 feet of pure salt at a depth of 2,600 feet. But by the time Van

Campen had drilled into the salt, Mr. Barber and his associates had learned that their proposed plan of using the low, level lands they had under option, flowing the brine from the wells over this land and producing salt by the simple method of letting the sun do the evaporating, was obsolete. The Solvey Process Company at Wyandotte, Mich., was producing salt by a more modern method, yet too expensive for Mr. Barber and his associates to undertake. There also was some doubt as to using this process on account of possible patents being infringed upon. The scheme was abandoned. Van Campen was ordered to discontinue drilling.

Mr. Barber, reluctant to give up the options on this large tract of land, was quick to see its strategic location, as well as its great potential possibilities. The Erie railroad, its North boundary, Wolf creek, it's west and south boundaries, the Pennsylvania railroad, the Ohio canal and the Tuscarawas river, (all these paralleling each other and only a few feet distant) its eastern boundary. He decided to build a new town, his decision no doubt quickened by a controversy with County Auditor Charles F. Dick as to thousands of dollars of claimed back taxes on Barber's Akron properties. He included in this plan the same men named above. Shortly afterwards, Geo. W. Crouse, Dr. Chandler (the father of Sellers Chandler, formerly associated with the Pittsburg Valve & Fittings Co.) and Col. Perkins, because of their knowledge of M. J. Alexander's success with the new town of Charleroi, recommended that Mr. Barber bring the experience of Mr. Alexander into this new town building company of theirs. So it was arranged that Mr. Alexander was not only to take stock, but to take entire charge of this new Ohio town. He also brought with him as stockholders, several officers of the Charleroi Plate

Glass Co., and Col. Wm. Moore and A. M. Sloan of my home city, Greensburg, Pa. A stockholders' meeting was called and stock subscribed to the amount of $100,000. Mr. Barber was elected president; Mr. Crouse, vice-president; Chas. Baird, attorney, secretary and treasurer, and M. J. Alexander, manager. The co-partnership papers were made out in the fall of 1890, in the name of The Barberton Land & Improvement Company, Ohio C. Barber, its attorney in fact and trustee.

About this time, Mr. Alexander, desirous of procuring an engineer to lay out the new city, which had tentatively been named "Barberton," made inquiry among mutual friends in my home city, where he was then making his home, although I had never met him. My name was suggested to him, and correspondence followed, which eventually took me to Pittsburgh to meet with him. I returned to Philadelphia, tendered my resignation, and 30 days later, about four P. M., arrived in New Portage (now North Barberton) a little village of about six or eight houses, two stores and a small tavern called "The Edwards House." Being a railroad man, I naturally inquired of the station agent, Paul Welker, where I might find a boarding house. He directed me to the Edwards House, a short distance away. That was the beginning of a friendship that has lasted through these thirty-five years. Mr. Welker is now employed by the city, having charge of the accounting department of the City Water Works.

When I entered the office of the tavern, I saw several rather tough looking characters sitting in chairs, tipped back against the wall. I was about to ask for the landlord when I heard one of the sitters loudly whisper, "Git on to the dude." I presume the remark was due me, for I recall that I wore a low crowned derby hat, a check patterned dark gray, caped rain

coat, and a high choker collar. All of which was accepted style in Philadelphia, but taboo in New Portage. This rather set me back for a moment; then I asked for the landlord, and one of the fellows pointed to a man on a tilted chair at the end of the room.

I walked back and said "You are the landlord?" He admitted that he was and I asked if I could get board and a room for several weeks. "I dunno if you can or not. What's your business?" he inquired. I explained that I could not tell him my business at the time, but assured him that it was honorable, and that he would be doing me a kindness which I would appreciate and perhaps some day reciprocate. "Well," he said, "if you sleep with one of the bricklayers, maybe I can put you up. I'll go back and see what the wife says about it. This gosh darn boom has made her work day and night, and she's not in a very good humor just now."

"I followed him back through the dining room to the kitchen. The wife was a pleasant appearing woman, and before the husband could say anything, I explained my wants. She immediately said I could have the "little room" all to myself. This hotel is standing, and I never pass it without glancing at the window of that "little room," and recalling the heartache of my first night's occupancy of it. There was a good, well cooked supper, with Tom Edwards, landlord, waiting on the table, always with a stogie in his mouth and his hat on. After supper there was a constant coming and going of men who would come through the office and go into a little side room, presently to emerge, apparently under the influence of some kind of "spirits." I soon learned that I was booked in a hotel with a secret passage, and that ardent spirits were being sold by the same methods as practiced by our modern bootlegger. This, however, was none of

my business, although rather disturbing to one who had just left a good home and a wife in beautiful Philadelphia.

If I could have reached the superintendent's office of the Pennsylvania railroad at New York that night, I would have wired him to hold my position. I spent a miserable night, did not sleep, and could not but think that I had made a big mistake to give up my position with the railroad company, to come to such an out of the way place as New Portage. What could I say or write to my wife about such a place? I could not bring her—a city girl—to such quarters, etc., etc. Next morning, after a good breakfast, I walked over the land which was to be surveyed for the new town of Barberton. I was agreeably surprised and encouraged to find such a fine layout. A beautiful ten acre lake with sloping, grassy banks and fine big maple and oak trees at two corners and one side was located approximately in the center of the large tract of level land.

I was delayed about ten days in starting the surveys, on account of delivery of my engineering instruments. During this time I prepared a small map showing the farm lines, and in giving the names of the owners, I am again referring to this map after 35 years.

When my instruments came and I could finally start work in earnest, I hired a couple of brothers, George and Pearce Conrad, and Frank Hanaline, as chairmen. I prevailed upon my younger brother, Jesse K. Johnston, to resign from the engineering construction department of the Pennsylvania railroad and come with me as my assistant. The only buildings on this tract of land at that time were these: A little one story five room frame house located on the northwest bank of the lake—(Then called Way's or Davis Lake

—now Lake Anna, after Mr. Barber's only daughter, Anna, the wife of Dr. A. D. Bevan of Chicago). This house was occupied by a family named Carney. Just north of the depression or swamp lying between Hopocan and Creedmore avs., stood a small one story log house and a bank barn. The barn was later converted into a dwelling house, and I believe is now in use. This little log house was occupied by Mr and Mrs. Jonas Baker, two good citizens of Barberton, who now own and live in a beautiful modern house near the spot where the old log cabin stood.

Another house, the Frederick Range home, was, I believe, a small log house, and stood close to a point near the northeast corner of Range st., and Baird av. The fourth house is still standing, a two story frame, just opposite and west of the south end of the sewer pipe building. This house was occupied by Wm. Brotzman and family. Mrs. Brotzman conducted a boarding house and served wonderful meals. Her good cooking was known far and near and her home made bread and pies, large, juicy and well baked, were served in quarters. A few years later, this house was purchased by Mrs. Ellen Maloney, the mother of Paul and Tom Maloney.

The work of surveying, making plans, profiles, and staking out the lots, progressed through the fall and winter. Let me say here that my arrangements with the land company provided for a modern house for me to live in. By the time the survey was sufficiently completed to select a lot for the house, the cold weather had come, so we postponed until spring the starting of the new house. In the meantime, the National Sewer Pipe Company with which Mr. Barber and Chas. Baird were affiliated, was building thirty small five room houses on National av. This was late in the fall of 1890, and I was provided with one of these

houses—the seventh house east from Bolivar Road, on the north side of National av., or "Sewer Pipe Row." It was finished on a Saturday afternoon. I had Miller & Hoffman, New Portage hardware men (now The Barberton Hardware Co.) place a small stove in the kitchen, and a small iron heating stove in the dining room. I sat on a nail keg all day Sunday firing up the stoves in order to dry the new plaster. My household goods had been standing in a box car in the sewer pipe yards for several weeks. Monday, with the help of several men, the furniture was placed in the house. I then sent for my wife to come on. She arrived a week or so later, and I could scarcely get her through the muddy street to the house. I soon found it necessary to purchase a pair of rubber boots for her, so that she might walk to and from the little grocery store on Bolivar Road, conducted by the late Albert Cox and his brother, George Cox.

The new town of Barberton was under way—on the farms purchased by Mr. Barber and his associates, from M. L. Shook, Wm. Brotzman, (father of Mrs. Will S. Mitchell, Mrs. Dr. Hammond and Frank Brotzman), D. R. James, Mathias Hublinger and John Warner, all north of Lake Anna, and from Milo Cahow, Frederick Range, (father of Mrs. Gomer Edwards and Mrs. Elmer Rishel), John Mong, (father of County Auditor Jacob Mong) Fred Gafkey, Walter Davis, father of Mrs. Al Fritz, and John C. Baughman, all south and west of Lake Anna, a total of 550 acres. Out of this, 100 acres was set aside for the Stirling Boiler Works, 30 acres for the National Sewer Pipe Co., 40 acres for the Creedmore Cartridge Co., (now the Rubber Products plant), 135 acres to the Columbia Chemical Co., 10 acres to the Belt Line Railroad Co., 12 acres to the Kirkham Art Tile Co. Lake An-

na covered 20 acres, and the remaining 203 acres were allotted into approximately 1,100 building lots.

The Indian bronze statue in the little park at the corner of State Road and High st., marks the spot where the Portage Trail between the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas rivers passed. This statue was erected during the administration of Mayor William S. Mitchell, and was his idea of keeping a memorial of this almost obliterated trail.

About April 1, 1891, the sale campaign of Barberton lots was started. The sale was on May 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. The first day it rained, the next day it snowed, and the following day we had both rain and snow. The newly graded streets were almost impassable. We had not provided conveyances to show prospects over the sites, so that we received our few prospective buyers in our small office in the National Sewer Pipe office building on Bolivar Road. The five days' sale totaled approximately $165,000. The surprising thing about this sale was that not one lot was sold to a Summit county man—not one man in the whole county had the faith to buy, yet the Western Pennsylvania men who made most of the purchases, realized handsome profits on their investments. One, in particular, recently sold a property on Tuscarawas av., which originally cost $500 for the lot, and $8,000 for the building. This property, which has been rented all these years on the basis of a splendid investment, brought $50,000.

Mr. Barber and Mr. Alexander were pleased with the results of the sale, and soon afterwards placed in my hands plans and specifications for the beautiful Barberton Inn, with instructions to build it on the square just south of Lake Anna. Several years later, on January 3, 1896, shortly after "The Inn" was opened, the greatest event that ever took place under

its roof occurred—the beautiful wedding of Mr. Barber's charming daughter, Miss Anna, to Dr. A. D. Bevan of Chicago.

About this time, the old stork, one bright May morning, flew across Lake Anna and left the first baby boy to arrive in the new town, at my house. He was, of course, a big, fine baby, and his mother and I were very proud of him. That boy is now associated with me in business, and is known as Joseph J. Johnston. My second son, George E. Johnston, was born two years later in the modern home promised me when I first came to Barberton. This house now stands on the southwest corner of Park av. and Third st., and is owned by Stephen Berlezsky, the first foreign banker to locate in Barberton.

In getting the grading of the new streets under headway, I was being annoyed more or less, by the native workmen who would work a day or two, then lay off, and there was continual bickering about wages, etc., until I reported the matter to Mr. Alexander, who arranged to have sixty colored farmer boys sent to me from his native state of Virginia. I built two frame two-story houses for their use, on the site close to the present location of the office of the Ohio Insulator Co. They were a happy, hard-working lot of men, and among them were four ministers of the gospel. At this time, Mrs. Ellen Runkle, the wife of the town's first minister, Rev. Runkle, who had died at the very beginning of Barberton, had taken up her husband's calling and work. She was about 30 years of age, a speaker with great command of language, a wonderful personality, and a woman "easy to look at." She was conducting a revival meeting under a large canvas tent, on the lot where Charlie Hyle now has his garage, on East Hopocan av.

These colored men were regular attendants at the

meetings, and helped in the choir, and the ministers among them participated in prayers and preaching.

Mrs. Runkle later was the minister in the Moore memorial church. She was again married to a Mr. King, and is, I believe, now preaching in Middleport, Ohio.

At this time, the National Sewer Pipe Company, under the general management of Henry A. Robinson, with E. M. Buehl as secretary and treasurer, was in operation, now The Vitrified Products Company plant with George R. Hill, president and Marshall Caine, superintendent, and the Stirling Boiler Company works (now the Babcox-Wilcox Company) with Allen Stirling as general manager, Henry S. Pell, superintendent, and A. R. Henry his secretary, were under construction. Mr. Pell resigned, about 1900, and was succeeded by the late James P. Sneddon. The present superintendent is C. R. Sadler. Edward R. Stetinius, now of the J. P. Morgan Banking Company of New York, was a commanding figure in this company for several years. The Creedmore Cartridge Co., with Noah C. Leech, general manager, and E. A. Worthen, the father of Charles and Frank Worthen, as superintendent, and the Kirkham Art Tile Works with Joseph Kirkham as superintendent, were also under construction. Within a year after the Kirkham Art Tile Works was completed and in operation, it was completely destroyed by fire, with a great loss to its owners, and throwing many men and women out of work. I have two beautiful blue delft vases which were made in this tile factory, and another one which was made in the Barberton Pottery Works, one of Mr. Barber's big projects which failed. I was not given a chance to buy stock in this company until it was on its last legs. Then I was permitted to come in to the extent of $3,000. So instead of calling this vase a "vase" I al-

ways refer to it as a "vahze." Why not, when it cost $3,000?

About this time, 1892, the townspeople were asking for a depot from the Pennsylvania railroad. The matter was taken up by our company, but the railroad officials could not see the necessity of a depot, and flatly refused to give us one. Our company finally gave the site, and advanced the money for the building, and the passenger and freight depots were built.

The panic of 1893 stopped further growth and progress of the town. Factories were closed down during that year all over the United States. Barberton, however, managed to keep the Sewer Pipe Co. and the Stirling Boiler Co. going for four ten-hour days a week. This work was alloted to the married men only, and no man was given more than two days a week, at ten cents an hour. Many houses were deserted. Our land company allowed purchasers on land contracts to remain in the homes without payments. They even tried to keep the rented houses occupied without rent. Yet, many houses were vacated. I cannot miss this opportunity to say that while I was manager of the Barberton Land Company and since then in my personal sales, there has never been a foreclosure of a mortgage or land contract.

The township constable, Tom Kelly, was, and had been "doing his darndest" to maintain law and order, but his efforts were not crowned with complete success. The Land company recognized the necessity of giving more protection to the citizens, and Mr. Barber recommended an old Akron acquaintance, who was an ex-Akron policeman, Patrick Duffy by name, the father of the late chief of Akron detectives, John Duffy, and I employed him. Duffy was a big, fine looking man with a rich Irish brogue, and his appearance was enhanced by the blue uniform with

gold braid and oodles of bright, shining brass buttons, and a big, broad brimmed black hat with a gold rope band with tasselled ends. It was but a short time until this handsome policeman was putting the fear of the law into the trouble-makers and, as he daily walked over his territory, he was soon well acquainted with the home owners and greatly admired by their children. One hot Friday evening in summer, as he approached Mrs. Jack Coogan's little shanty opposite the Sewer Pipe company's office, he saw Mrs. Coogan sitting on her front porch fanning the flies away, and trying to keep cool and comfortable. As Duffy came up, he saluted and said: "Good evening, Mrs. Coogan. A foine evening it is," to which Mrs. Coogan replied: "Shure, and it is hot though. Say, Mr. Duffy, shure and phwat day is this?" "Why, this is Friday, ma'am." "Glory be to God, we've bin ateing mate all day."

All business, and real estate particularly, was at a standstill at this time. The Land company was beginning to be misunderstood and maligned by many of the townspeople. We were still in the township, with no organized protection for the people. The schools were filling up, and the township would not erect buildings, so the people in New Portage and Barberton proper, decided to incorporate a village. Candidly, our Land company wanted this very thing to happen, because many of our lots were sold, improvements such as sewers, water and light were being talked about, and the company knew that the only fair solution of the matter was incorporation. Then the taxes that were being paid into the Coventry township treasury, could be paid to a city treasurer, civic organizations could be formed, and improvements carried out.

A special election was called, and during the cam-

paign, much abuse was directed at the officers of the Barberton Land and Improvement Company, some claiming that we were a "syndicate" wanting to run the town our own way, and for ulterior purposes, etc. The candidates for first mayor were John McNamara of New Portage, a splendid man and an old time "Dimocrat" as he pronounced it, and Edson Bishop, a man of excellent reputation, who lived in the Land company's part of the town. He was a Republican, a bricklayer by trade, and worked at the American Sewer Pipe Company's plant, "the hotbed of Republicanism," as some wag referred to it.

The campaign was a hard fought and bitter one. The day before the election, Mr. McNamara, who had added real estate to his mercantile business, called at my office and showed me a letter he had received from a young lady in Charleroi, Pa., who had purchased a lot from our company at the first sale. She wanted him to sell the lot, naming price and terms. He asked me where the lot was located, so I rode down to show it to him. This lot is the spot where Lamiell Bros. now conduct their clothing store. At that time there was a beautiful maple tree on the lot, with far-spreading branches which offered shade and rest on a hot day to many a weary traveler or citizen. We drove under the tree and alighted, and walked around the four corners of the lot. It seems that some one from the Sewer Pipe Company's camp saw us, and reported the circumstance to headquarters. The next morning (election day) every house in the city had a poster at the door reading like this:

A VOTE FOR McNAMARA
Means a vote for Johnston and the syndicate
VOTE FOR BISHOP

If McNamara had hopes of being elected before this poster was blazoned forth, they went glimmer-

ing. He was badly defeated, and while he never showed pique, from that time until his death a short time ago, I could not but feel that I had unwittingly helped to his defeat. However, he was vindicated some years later, when he was elected mayor of a much larger Barberton. He was also postmaster at one time, and his son, James, has also held both these offices.

I could relate many humorous incidents about Mr. McNamara, this kindly old man, with his brogue of the Emerald Isle, but will make this one suffice to show his ability to hold his own in politics. Just before Barberton was incorporated, the Norton township election was on for the nomination of township clerk. Mr. McNamara was a candidate and John Paul, a former captain on the Ohio canal, who had located in Barberton and was running a livery stable, was his opponent. On the night of the Caucus, to be held in the school house at Norton Center, three miles northwest of Barberton, Paul, who owned a big red bandwagon, hitched four horses to it, and about sundown started out to collect his followers who had promised to vote for him. Just what was the cause of his delay in getting to the Caucus at Norton Center schoolhouse has never been told. However, when he did drive up, stopped, and unloaded his voters, and started to lead them toward the lighted schoolhouse, Mr. McNamara, with his cohorts came out, met him at the door and said: "Paul, ye canal-ers are too slow. The 'Kockus' (Caucus) is over, and I've got the nomination."

Shortly after our lot sale in May, 1891, the manufacturers and dwellers in our new town site, wanted a post office. The nearest office was at New Portage, and George Shaw, storekeeper, was postmaster. Mr. Alexander and Mr. Barber, with friends in court at

Washington, D. C., arranged to give us a post office. Mr. Alexander instructed me to offer the postmastership to George Shaw provided he would move his store down to our part of town. This, Mr. Shaw refused to do, believing as he said, that we could not get a post office. A few days later, two men from Ashtabula county, Ohio, came into my office. Mr. Alexander happened to be over from Pittsburg that day.

These two newcomers were destined to be two of the leading business men of future Barberton, but did not realize it at that time. They were Arthur A. Moore and George W. St. John. They were looking for a location for a dry goods store, and before they left for their homes Mr. Moore was offered and had accepted the postmastership.

A short time afterwards both men returned, each buying several lots. Mr. Moore built one of the first brick three-story buisness blocks in the city, and for years he and Mr. St. John conducted a first class dry goods store. Later, both branched out into real estate and were very successful. Mr. Moore was also president of the People's bank, and was one of Barberton's most respected and philanthropic citizens. He died several years ago. His widow and daughter, Mrs. Fred Weller, are still living in Barberton. Mr. St. John spends his winters in Florida, and during the summer months continues to do his part in all things pertaining to the betterment of Barberton.

The panic ended in the late Fall of 1893, but the summer and autumn of that year had many dark days. I, being one of the few salaried men in the town, was not affected as were the men who depended on their days' work. Building lots that I had sold for our company to out of town people, previous to the panic, were offered for sale at half the purchase price, the

owners writing me to sell them if possible, and to make the terms of payment to suit myself. I used what money I had brought with me from ten years of savings, with the Pennsylvania railroad, and what I had saved while I was in Barberton, and bought quite a few of these offered lots.

In the Spring of 1894, Mr. Barber started to build the new Diamond match plant in Barberton.

The company's officials at this time, if I recall correctly, were: O. C. Barber, president; John K. Robinson, treasurer; Charles H. Palmer, vice president and general superintendent; Edward R. Stettinius, vice president; H. C. Cranz, auditor; Wm. H. Palmer, assistant general superintendent; Joseph A. Baughman, chief mechanical engineer; Fred Mason, assistant sales manager; Tom Palmer, superintendent; Walter White, assistant superintendent; Douglas T. Potts, superintendent of the machine shop.

This new Barberton plant had a capacity of 225,000,000 matches daily. The company also had factories in Oshkosh, Wis.; Oswego, N. Y.; Portland, Me., and Chico, Cal., and was interested in the match business in England, South Africa, Switzerland, Peru, Manila, Germany and Canada. They had 200,000 acres of virgin timber lands in the states of California, Massachusetts and Maine, with large saw mills and block factories at Red Bluff, Stirling and Barber, Cal.; Biddeford, Me., and Athol, Mass., and a large box-board plant at Southford, Conn.

The personnel of the company at the present time includes only Joseph Baughman, Walter White and Douglas Potts of the old regime. H. A. Rudd was appointed general superintendent about 15 years ago, and has been instrumental in keeping this big plant in constant and full operation, as well as having added many new labor-saving devices. The machine

shop is modern in every way, and fully equipped with special machinery and tools for the manufacture of match-making machinery for use in the many plants of the company.

The Diamond Match Company has been a big asset to Barberton. Its continuous operation gives steady work to many employees. Panics have a stimulating effect on the match business. When other factories are operating on a part time basis, and others are closed down, the idle men spend most of their time smoking, and their wives let the kitchen fires go out to save fuel, and both must use more matches to relight their pipes and stoves, all of which makes good business for the match factories.

About this time (1894) I sold a lot to Joe Blue and his wife, Belinda. They built the first house on Baird av., on the northwest corner of Baird av. and Third st. The house is now owned and occupied by A. R. Henry. Mrs. Blue was the general manager of the Blue household, a little auburn haired woman of uncertain temper. She called at my office monthly to make payments on her lot, and each time requested me to give her a rebate, or discount, for building the first house on Baird av. Finally she became discouraged at her lack of success, and tried another course. She came in one day and said: "Mr. Johnston, did you know that we have a new baby boy at our house? And who do you suppose we named him after?" I could not guess. "Why, after Mr. Barberton. We call him Barberton Blue, and I want you to be sure to tell Mr. Barberton (Barber) about it, and ask him to allow us a discount on our lot." Mr. Barber had a hearty laugh when I related the matter to him, but did not authorize me to allow Mrs. Blue a discount.

The new town of Barberton employed me at about that time as engineer, in addition to my other work. I was to put in the first sewer system, and employed Harry

W. Alcorn, Barberton's present city engineer, as my assistant. I could tell a long story of our hard fight to build this first sewer system according to plans and specifications. Suffice it to say that we fought our battle with the enemy and completed the sewer. It has been in use 31 years, and I understand that not one cent has been paid for repairs. Many of the citizens at that time had come from farms or small villages. They knew nothing of sanitation or the advantages of sewers and city water, so they were against the project, and told many impossible tales about our work. For instance, it was currently reported that we were building the sewer "up hill," that it would never drain the sewage, etc., etc. Some of these people are still living in Barberton. I wonder what they and their children and grandchildren would say if they were now refused sewer connections to their homes.

With this improvement, and additions and improvements to the different factories, Barberton started a boom which continued—in fact, the city has never let up in its growth—and it at that time earned the sobriquet by which it is still known, "The Magic City." I began selling my cheaply purchased lots on the basis of "sell when you get a profit," and it was not long until my lots were all sold, and my investment proved a good one.

In the summer of 1894, Thomas F. Walsh, a young attorney of Akron (now president of The Swinehart Tire and Rubber Company), employed me to lay out and build a single track street railway from Akron to Barberton. The route selected and used, started about where the Walsh block now stands on Main st., Akron, and ran south on Main to Bowery, thence on Bowery to South, on South to Manchester road, south on Manchester road to the Erie railroad; then (through private right of way) south-westerly and parallel to the Erie railroad, to Foust road, on Foust road west to Summit Hill road, thence

south on this road to High st.; on High st. to Cornell, thence to Lake st. to Second st., down Second to Tuscarawas av. and west on Tuscarawas to Seventh st.

The road was soon completed to the north Barberton corporation line, then the anvil chorus of Barberton's knockers began.

All sorts of misinformation and criticisms were circulated through the city as to the great damage the street railway would bring the merchants and working men. That the people would go to Akron to buy their merchandise, that workmen from Akron would come to Berberton, etc., etc. Akron workmen who worked in Berberton were called "barnacles." This propaganda had its effect and a certain young attorney who was reported to be representing an opposing street car line, was the prime leader in this move to keep Mr. Walsh's railway from entering the city—saying that Tom Walsh would never lay a rail in Barberton, that HE was the watch dog for the J. F. Seiberling Company, and that just the minute Walsh started to lay his rails on the city streets, he had all papers ready for an injunction.

Mr. Walsh and I had a conference. The young attorney reported to his friends next day that he had important legal business in an adjoining state—a two days' journey. That night Mr. Walsh and I got the Mayor, John R. Davis, and the city council to hold a special session, and at twelve o'clock they voted Mr. Walsh a franchise. I had car loads of rails and ties on the Belt Line railway, just south of Baird av., and also had men and teams ready. The work was started at 12:10 A. M., and by daylight the track was graded, ties and rails distributed into place, and by four o'clock that afternoon, on the arrival home of the young attorney, the rails were spiked, the road bed ballasted and ready for the cars. I have never told the secret of that attorney's legal trip to Pennsylvania and I doubt that Mr. Walsh has done so.

Let me relate here an incident of those pioneer days which shows the caliber of these early workers. One day Herman Seigworth and his wife Rose, with their six small children arrived in Barberton, directly from Germany. They called at my office and rented a six room house for ten dollars a month, and paid me half a month's rent with a five-dollar gold piece. Mr. Seigworth secured work at the Diamond match plant at $1.50 per day. Mrs. Seigworth looked after the home and children. Our land company gave them the use of vacant lots on which they raised garden truck and sold the surplus to their less thrifty neighbors. They bought a cow, and later another one, and sold the surplus milk. The older children went to work in the match shop, and for years the younger children, in their turn, were sent to Akron to the German Lutheran School on High st. Let Mrs. Seigworth tell the story from here as she told it to me.

"Mr. Johnston, when we came to Barberton and rented the house from you, do you know that we paid you the last but one of our five dollar gold pieces remaining after our long trip from Germany? Things were pretty discouraging at first, then Herman got work in the match factory, and later on two of the older children got work there, too. Your land company loaned us the lots for our garden, and we always had enough potatoes and cabbage for the winter. Things were better then, and one morning Herman went to work, and there were eight of us in our family, and when he came home there were eleven. The triplets had come, and Oh, I felt so discouraged! Only for a little while though, for the neighbors and everyone in town were so good to us, and people crowded to our home to see the three pretty girl babies. They were so much alike that I could not tell one from the other, so I tied red, white and blue ribbons, the colors of our new country's flag, on them, and named them Paula, Lydia and Marie.

"As the children worked their way through school, and graduated, each was given a course in Akron's commercial schools and secured good positions. Two of the boys were sent to Germany to complete their education. The triplets each had reached the position of secretary to the heads of three large manufacturing concerns, and were all three happily married during the past two years. One of the boys, Henry, joined the colors with the rest of our boys, during the late war.

These sturdy folks bought the house they rented when they first reached Barberton, later they bought another, then two of the girls bought two corner lots on which they built three houses. Later they traded these three houses on a 30 acre farm north of town, where the parents have lived for the past 15 years. The town grew out to the farm, so they alloted it a few years ago, and have sold many lots, on which quite a few houses have been built.

I would have liked to tell the history *fully,* of the Akron and Barberton Belt Line railway, the small capital invested by Mr. Barber, Chas. Baird, Wm. McFarlin, Tom Cornell and J. K. Robinson—the success from the very first—the increase in business and profits as the old industries grew and new ones came—the extension to the clay bank south of town, thence north to Fairlawn to connect with the Northern Ohio railway, thence to Akron through what is now Kenmore, into south Akron and on to east Akron, producing more profits. By this time Mr. Barber had succeeded in buying all of the stock of the company, and was now sole owner of a valuable railroad property. The trunk line railroads sent their scouts to look over the Belt line. It was my duty to accompany these men, and after several had been shown over the road, I reported to Mr. Barber and Mr. Baird that I believed the big roads were thinking of buying the Belt line.

Shortly after this, Mr. Barber received a communication from Vice President James McCrea of the Pennsyl-

vania Railroad company, asking for a conference of representatives of his road, the Erie, B. & O., and New York Central with Mr. Barber. The conference was held at a luncheon in the dining room of the Barberton Inn. There were about twenty-five men representing the four trunk line railroads, Mr. Barber, Mr. Baird and myself. Mr. Barber sat at the head of the long table. After the lunch was finished Mr. McCrea arose and said:

"Mr. Barber, I do not intend to make a speech. No doubt you know what we are here for, and to get action on the matter, I want to ask your price on the entire property of the Belt Line railroad."

Mr. Barber arose and said: "Gentlemen, I did not ask you here. You came on your own invitation. I am glad to see you here. I never intimated to anyone that I wanted to sell the Belt line, it is the most valuable property I own, and I can see no reason why I should sell, or why I should name a price. However, since you came on this mission, I have no objection to you making me a price. I thank you."

After considerable badinage, Mr. McCrea said: "Mr. Barber, at a conference held before we came here today, the limit price to be offered you is $500,000.00. I believe it is a fair offer, and one which will make you a handsome profit."

Mr. Barber interposed and cried out: "No, no, I will not consider it for one minute. No, sir."

Mr. McCrea then said: "Well, Mr. Barber, inasmuch as we have journeyed here today, and dined together, and made you what I consider a fair offer, won't you at least give us your price?"

Mr. Barber left the table, beckoned to Mr. Baird, and the two walked to the end of the room where they could talk the matter over without disturbance. The other men arose from the table and gathered in groups of fours and

fives. In my group was the late Superintendent Baker of the Northern Ohio railway. He remarked to me:

"Well, Mr. Johnston, what do you think of Mr. McCrea's offer?" I said that it was like shaking a red flag at a bull. A bewhiskered little man, not knowing my association with Mr. Barber, called out: "Oh, it will be all right. They'll pay him a million dollars for his road."

Just then Mr. Barber and Mr. Baird started for their seats at the table. Mr. Barber had already reached his chair when I intercepted Mr. Baird and told him that they would pay a million dollars, and how it had been told to me. He quickly went to Mr. Barber, took him by the arm, and they walked back to the corner of the room. In a minute they were back in their seats. Mr. Barber in fine fettle and excellent humor, told them that he had never before considered selling the road, yet after consulting with Mr. Baird, and also realizing that he was not a practical railroad man, etc., etc., he had decided to name a price, it was going to be a fair price, one which he knew would part him from his road.

"The price, gentlemen,"—(the railroad men were all leaning toward Mr. Barber, anxious to get that price)—"as I said before, I am going to be fair, and set a price which will, I know, meet with your approval. This price, gentlemen, to you, is two million dollars."

The railroad men arose as one man and rushed out of the room, with Mr. Barber clapping his hands and laughing so as to be heard out in the hotel office. Sixty days later, Mr. Barber accepted one million dollars in cash for the property. Within a short time, the four trunk line railway companies—the purchasers—bonded the Belt line property for $3,000,000. Mr. Barber, until the time of his death, believed that he had been swindled, or cajoled out of $2,000,000, not taking into consideration that these $3,000,000 in bonds were guaranteed by the vast properties of the four trunk line railroads, in addition to the

Belt line property—a guarantee that Mr. Barber could not, at that period of his life, have given.

By the year 1898, Barberton had grown to considerable size, and new factories and schools were being built, bringing many young women to the town. There were teachers, stenographers and clerks with no place of entertainment for them. The ladies of the town, recognizing the necessity of furnishing a wholesome meeting place for these young women, banded together and decided to rent a room and equip it for a girls' club, library and rest room. The ladies canvassed the town for donations to cover the expenses of rent, equipment and upkeep. When Mr. Barber was approached for a donation, he told the committee that he would build, equip and maintain a library, providing they could raise $1,000 from the citizens. In a short time about $300 in cash and $1,200 in signed subscriptions was obtained. Mr. Barber was informed of the ladies' success, but for some unknown reason, the library hung fire for more than a year. Finally some of the ladies called on Mr. Barber and informed him that some of the people who had paid cash toward the project, had grown impatient and had asked for a return of their money. Mr. Barber forthwith rented a large room in the new Whigham & Shubert building, placed furniture, shelves, and books and employed Mrs. Taplin of Akron as librarian. Several years later, the city took over this library, and continues to maintain it.

About the year 1898, the writer noticed a news item in the Pittsburg Post to the effect that The Pittsburg Plate Glass Company were contemplating the building of a large soda ash factory, and that the basic elements required were water, salt, limestone and coal. I talked the matter over with Mr. Barber, as to the advisability of my going to Pittsburg in an effort to locate this new plant in Barberton. He discouraged me by saying that he had analyzed the soda ash business years ago, and that Bar-

berton could not offer the right inducements, etc. Knowing that we had salt under every foot of land, limestone at Columbus, coal at Massillon, and Wolf Creek, Hudson Run, Tuscarawas River and the Ohio Canal for water supply, I went to Pittsburg and saw Mr. Artemus Pitcairn, one of the officials of the Pittsburg Plate Glass Company, whom I had known for several years, he being one of the stockholders whom M. J. Alexander brought into The Barberton Land and Improvement Co.

I told Mr. Pitcairn my reasons for coming, explained that salt was now being manufactured at Halo, by the Loomis Brothers, and another plant was in operation at Rittman. The outcome of this visit was that Mr. Pitcairn sent his chemist back to Barberton with me. We secured samples of salt brine at the Loomis factory and The Wadsworth Salt Company's plants. The chemist returned to Pittsburg, and two days later Mr. Pitcairn wired me that the samples of brine were satisfactory, and that their representatives would be out to see me the next day. They arrived, and after being shown over the city, they instructed me to take an option on the John Baughman farm, located just west of Wolf Creek, and south of Wooster road, also to weir the streams to ascertain the amount and flow of water.

Shortly after the option to buy the Baughman farm was obtained, the drillers were on the ground, and in a few months had struck and gone thru the several veins of salt. About this time, an energetic young Scotchman arrived on the job, and was soon organizing his forces to build the largest soda ash and caustic soda plant in the country. He had agreed with the officials of the new company, which was to be called The Columbia Chemical Company, that he would have the plant completed on a given schedule time, in operation at another date, and making a profit at a given time. All of these agreements he carried out to the very scheduled day. This young

man is now our good all-around public-spirited citizen, Hugh A. Galt, president of the big plant he so completely built.

A few years later, M. J. Alexander organized The Pittsburg Valve & Fittings Company. Associated with him was L. D. Castle, a man of practical and technical knowledge of the manufacture of brass and steel fittings. The same men who had capitalized The Columbia Chemical Company were also associated with Mr. Alexander and Mr. Castle in this new venture. Through Mr. Alexander's influence this big plant was located in Barberton, on 70 acres of land purchased from Lloyd, Tim, and Charles Hunsberger, Mr. Alexander having delegated me to make and close the deal. This plant, from the date of first operation, has been in full force up to the present time and is one of Barberton's biggest plants. I understand Mr. Alexander has now retired from business activities, and is living in Pittsburg. Carl L. Selkregg is first vice-president of the company. Mr. Selkregg married Miss Ruby M. Peterson, the granddaughter of Wm. C. Koonce, the pioneer lumber man of this city.

Following the Pittsburg Valve & Fittings Company's plant, came the Portage Rubber Company, and The Ohio Insulator Company. The latter company has shown the greatest and largest growth during the past five years of any of Barberton's factories, and it is ably managed by A. O. Austin.

The Portage Rubber Company was taken over in 1921 by The Seiberling Rubber Company, and its marvelous growth since that time should be reason for every citizen of Barberton to give full praise to two native sons of Norton township, Frank A. and C. W. Seiberling.

About 1898, Mr. Barber purchased around 200 acres of land lying on the southeasterly side of Barberton, from Huston Kepler. This was the beginning of what was eventually Mr. Barber's pride, the great Anna Dean

Farm, comprising several thousand acres. The purchasing of this land from the owners was placed in my hands and with the helpful assistance of Wm. S. Mitchell, we delivered in a very short time the purchase options to Mr. Barber. About 1905 he retired from active participation in the affairs of the Diamond Match company, of which he had been president for many years. He spent the next 15 years developing this large tract of land and erecting a palatial home, several large brick and stone barns, a chicken ranch, squabbery, piggery, slaughter house, and a hotel for his employees.

In the chicken ranch he raised thousands of chickens yearly. He raised pigeons, Mongolian pheasants, and a few Collie and Airedale dogs.

On a farm three miles north of the home farm, he built a series of buildings and a large dam. Here he raised yearly 75,000 White Pekin ducks, and dressed and shipped them by carload lots to New York and Chicago.

The perennial gardens are in glass buildings built in a parallelogram of steel frames, glass sides and roof, and covering about eight acres. In these, he produced several varieties of beautiful roses and flowers, orchids, gardenias, nectarines, peaches, Casaba melons, Alexandria, Muscatel and Black Hamburg grapes (great clusters a foot in length), massive potted ferns and a few fig bearing trees. These fig trees were a source of great pleasure to Mr. Barber, and in giving his lectures on modern farming to other farm owners, he enjoyed telling the story of a vivacious young lady who had been shown through the entire gardens. When at last she espied the fruited fig trees, and inquired what kind of trees they were, she was told "fig trees." Fig tree leaves are small, about the size of a plum leaf. This young lady laid her hand under one of these small leaves and said: "Why, you don't mean to tell me that a fig leaf is not any larger than that?"———

The greenhouses, covering 12 acres of land, now

owned by M. S. and I. D. Yoder, are producing annually 75 tons of tomatoes, 60 tons of lettuce, 50 tons of cucumbers, several varieties of flowers, and many pounds of mushrooms. Yoder Brothers are now contemplating renting from the Barber estate the big three-story brick cow barn to be entirely used for raising mushrooms. Most of their present output is consumed in the Akron district.

Mr. Barber's first wife died, about 1894, and until 1914 he lived alone in his big East Market st. house in Akron, and the beautiful mansion on the Anna Dean Farm. He entertained many notable men and women, and was a hospitable and genial host. The greatest affair held in the "Mansion" was in 1914, when a reception was given after his marriage with Miss Mary Orr of Akron. Invitations were sent to many of the old families of Akron and Barberton, and to friends of Mr. and Mrs. Barber, far and near.

Mr. Barber's busy life was ended in March, 1920. He was stricken suddenly while on a business trip to Chicago, hurried home and died a few days later. After Mr. Barber's death, the executors of the estate sold all the live stock on the farm and the lands and buildings are now in charge of a caretaker.

Space will not permit enumeration of other of Barberton's industries, the history of paved streets, municipal water and electric light plants, churches, golf clubs, country clubs, the beautifying of Lake Anna and Tuscora Parks, welfare work, banks, building and loan associations, the Chamber of Commerce, secret, benevolent, and patriotic societies, the three viaducts, the Real Estate board, the fire department, the Red Cross and Catholic benevolent societies, and the beautiful and commodious Masonic building. Nor have we the space to describe the development of East, West and North Barberton.

The land covered by East Barberton was owned by Jacob and Huston Kepler and William Brinker. The

writer purchased the 200 acre tract which was the Samuel Kepler farm, and later conveyed it to The East Barberton Land company, the stockholders of which were O. C. Barber, M. J. Alexander, Artemus Pitcairn, and the writer. North Barberton was developed by Alex Crisman, Isaac Romig, A. A. Moore, Geo. W. St. John, The Pittsburg Valve and Fittings Company, B. O. Etling, Jacob Snyder, John McNamara, Morris Young, Fred E. Smith, R. K. Crawford, E. R. Held, A. H. Commins and the writer. West Barberton was developed by The Columbia Chemical company, A. A. Moore, Geo. W. St. John, B. F. Tracy, John McNamara, Eli Frederick, Bert and Arthur Shaw, A. H. Commins, E. R. Held, R. K. Crawford, and myself.

Neither have I space to describe the building, furnishing and operating of the beautiful Barberton Inn, and the final razing of this building. This site is now almost covered with business houses including the City building and the Masonic building. However, I cannot omit brief mention of the splendid public schools so ably conducted by Superintendent U. L. Light, a broad minded, far-visioned man, whose record of many years of service to Barberton's schools has so endeared him to the citizens. Recently the directors contracted for his services for another five-year period. There are approximately 4,000 pupils and 122 teachers, and ten modern, well equipped brick school buildings. This magic city of 25,000 prosperous citizens can well be proud of its schools.

Of the many men associated with Mr. Barber during the first few years of Barberton's growth, few are alive today. I can recall only three: M. J. Alexander, Charles Baird and the writer. My recollection is that not one among these pioneers who helped to build Barberton, and who managed the factories in those early days, was a college man. Including Mr. Barber, they were men of practical experience. Men of courage, creative minds and

vision. The kind of men King Solomon referred to as "The hearing ear and the seeing eye." Today, almost every manufacturing plant is managed by a college man, with theoretical, technical and scientific training. If the first type of men built "better than they knew," what great things may we not expect from these trained college men?

"For truer than all that is written, is all that has not been told,
The yet unlived and unliving, are truer than all the old.
The fairest is still the farthest, the life that has yet to be
Holds ever the past and the present—itself the soul of the three."

—Ethel Ashton.

I have written considerably about the men pioneers, and little about the women. The wives of many of the early builders of Barberton were brave, hopeful women, and furnished the inspiration to their husbands to stick, and hold on when things looked darkest. They were the workers for churches, Sunday and public schools, charities and Red Cross, parks, playgrounds and libraries. These women, like the Puritan wives of our forefathers, endured not only all that their husbands endured, but they had to endure their husbands to boot. It is a psychological fact that boys take after their mothers, and reproduce the characteristics and intellectual qualities of the maternal, and not the paternal side. Is it any wonder, then, that this generation of Barberton's young business men are building a city bigger and better than their fathers built?

"As unto the bow the cord is,
So unto the man is woman.
Tho she bends him she obeys him,
Tho she draws him, yet she follows.
Useless each, without the other."

I cannot close this curtailed outline of Barberton's inception and growth without some mention of the names of the early settlers or pioneers of Barberton. They are:

Edson Bishop, first mayor.

Arthur A. Moore, first postmaster.

Frank Cully, first editor.

John R. Davis, first superintendent of schools.

Wm. E. Snyder, first school teacher.

Dr. C. D. Carr, first physician.

Patrick Duffy, first policeman.

Wm. Higgins, first marshal.

B. F. Tracy built the first three-story business block.

Edward Karshner was the first bricklayer.

Rev. Runkle, the first minister, and his wife, Rev. Ellen Runkle, afterwards Rev. Ellen Runkle King.

Noda Hoch, daughter of Oliver Hoch, was the first girl born in Barberton.

Thomas Kelly was the first constable.

Elmer Boden was the first mail carrier.

Paul Welker was the first station agent.

Wm. Brotzman and Frank Haws owned the first livery stable.

Harvey Waterman was the first contractor.

Alex Crisman was the first dry goods merchant.

Wm. Webb, Miss Duffy and Miss Ault (now Mrs. O. D. Everhard), early teachers.

Ross McDougal was the first shoemaker.

Daniel Ellison was the first colored man.

Sam Ling was the first Chinaman.

Jacob Mast and Ed Hays owned the first 5 & 10 cent store.

M. L. Shook, Herman Baughman and Wm. Haver were the first painters.

E. A. Huene and O. D. Everhardt, the first attorneys. Later came Charles Ammerman, B. E. Baker, Charles

Karsh, Stephen Miller, S. A. Decker, Alexander S. Greenbaum and Benj. Blaser.

Milton Royston was the first fire chief.

Dr. C. B. Carr, Henry Frase, Dr. Wm. Steadman and Dr. E. A. Belford were the first druggists.

C. F. and Albert Schlegel had the first shoe store.

Ed Blackston and "Doc" Curran had the first saloons.

Weisberger & Feldman, and Morris Richberger were the first clothing merchants.

Miss Clara Dandridge was the first Hawaiian.

Mrs. H. K. Danenhower was the first milliner.

H. K. Danenhower and Frank Durant were the first undertakers.

Byron Williams, James Corson, John W. Edwards and Mr. Parmalee, the first photographers.

Dr. Benj. Carter Chandler, the first dentist.

Jacob T. Miller, Samuel Hoffman and Charles Johnson, the first hardware merchants.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Coogan, the first Irish family.

Mrs. Ursula Dormish, the first foreigner to buy a home.

Elmer E. Lyon was the first real estate agent. His sign was on the northeast corner of the John Galitzky building, and is yet discernible.

H. S. Sumner and Harvey Collins were the first jewelers.

Mrs. Frank Ries drove the first milk wagon.

Ed (Doc) Curran, Al Johnson and Wm. Hollar, the first barbers.

George Dunkle, Jonas Baker and Eli Boerstler, the first butchers.

Alonza Humphrey, one of the first to build a home.

Father Kubler, an ex-chaplain in the regular army, was the first Catholic priest, and was wholly instrumental in building the first Catholic Church.

Morris Young, George Shaw and John McNamara conducted stores in New Portage in 1890.

The first jail was named "The Posey House," after the first occupant, a town character by the name of "Posey."

E. A. Worthen & Sons had the first tobacco store.

Joseph P. McCarty, first telegraph operator.

Eugene P. Rowe, first editor of a Republican paper.

James and Hugh Meehan, the first bottling works.

Miss Ella Whorley, the first leader of Barberton's famous ladies' band.

The first superintendent of the Belt line was Elias L. Toy, followed by Wm. J. McFarlin, James Corbett, and the present incumbent, L. C. Groff.

Morris Critchfield was the first track foreman.

Members of the first Barberton Silver Cornet Band were: Lewis Casenhiser, leader; Herman (Drummie) Baughman, George Romig, Dr. B. C. Chandler, Tom Daily, Hal Eby, George Burt, Wils Berlin, Harry Houser, Jimmie Fox, Wm. Haver, Mr. Baxendale, Clifton Miller.

Eli Boerstler was the first detective. Recently, despite his advancing years, this retired detective picked a man up by his coat collar and the seat of his trousers and threw him to the sidewalk. Boerstler said the man interfered when he was assisting police to arrest two intoxicants.

Miss Nina Shaw was first woman "Realtor."

Ed A. Huene, owner of the first automobile.

Miss Maude Boden was the first dressmaker.

Miss Birdie Meeks and Miss May Parker, the first newspaper reporters.

John and Ed Cargould were the first street car conductors; Jimmie McFarland, the first motorman.

Charles Mast was the first landlord of The National Hotel.

Mr. Miller of Chicago was the first landlord of The Barberton Inn.

David Kessler was the first merchant tailor.

Amby Lee, T. J. Davies, Geo. and Al Cox, and F. J. Dayton, the first grocers.

The first professional baseball players were Gene Wright and George Sisler.

The present mayor, Wm. A. Witner, is a native son of Norton township.

The first social club, The Tuscarawas Club, was organized in 1892 with club rooms in the National Sewer Pipe Company's office building on Bolivar road. The membership, as I recall it, was made up of the following men: Park and Henry A. Robinson, E. L. Toy, J. W. Tracy, B. F. Tracy, Joseph Costigan, Charles Worthen, Ed M. and Philo Buehl, Wm. H. Hunt, Al Turner, A. C. Carpenter, Mulford Wade, Wm. A. Johnston, Will Baird.

The crowning event of that most convivial club was the night the stakes were running high and Will Baird laid down a straight flush against Mulford Wade's four aces. Baird recompensed Wade by telling him that it was a call from the Lord for him to forever stop playing poker, and Mulford accepted the call and claims never to have played poker since that eventful night.

I had prepared a list of several hundred names of the men and women who were early settlers of Barberton, but space will not permit the telling of individual stories of these people whom I well knew, and of the part they played in Barberton's early history.

Barberton's population of 25,000 today is approximately what Akron's population was when Barberton was started.

Kenmore

I must abruptly close my reminiscences of Barberton, and give attention to the early history of Kenmore. The building of Tom Walsh's street railway from Akron to Barberton in 1893-4, and its operation, soon attracted the attention of home owners.

The first development was along Bowery st., in Akron, from Exchange to South st., and along Manchester Road. Homes also sprang up from New Portage north to what is now Stop 97, and by 1898 many new homes stood along this part of the street railway line.

Seeing this new development, and with some vision as to its future growth, about 1898 I purchased 45 acres of land lying along the car line, between the Erie railroad and Foust st., from the late George Foust and Jacob T. Miller. About two years later I purchased 70 additional acres, paralleling the street railway, from the late Austin Triplett and Wm. Sours.

About this time, the late Will Christy, who was the local executive head of what is now The Northern Ohio Traction & Light Company, called at my office in Barberton and told me that his company wanted to build a new line from Akron to Barberton, and that they had made a preliminary survey from a point at East av. and South st., by a straight line to Stop 97. I told him of my land holdings, and suggested a line beginning at Main st. and Ira av., South on Ira av. to Kenmore boulevard, South on the boulevard and crossing the Ohio canal near Zimmerly Bros.' packing house and southwesterly, crossing the Walsh car line at a point on Manchester road, about 150 feet south of where Zimmerly Brothers' meat market is now located, and then in a southwesterly direction by a straight line, following a natural ravine or depression, near where the Colonial school stands, to a point where the present line crosses Foust Road, then southwesterly by a straight line to Stop 97. Then crossing again the Walsh line and going southwesterly to a point about half way between High st., and Romig Road; crossing the Erie railroad by overhead bridge at a point about 300 feet west of the present Cornell st.

viaduct, then on to Van st., and on down through the city of Barberton.

This plan seemed feasible to Mr. Christy, and he requested me to make a tentative plan of the proposed route, and submit it to him at an early date. A few days after the plan was delivered to him, he called me to his office and told me my plan had been approved and that his company would build a double track road to Barberton, provided they could get the cooperation of the land owners along this proposed route of mine. He suggested either that I buy or get others to buy the farms adjoining my land, and lay out a new town, with a 100-foot wide boulevard along their proposed route, giving them an easement of a thirty foot strip in the center of this boulevard. In exchange the operating company would enter into a contract with the land owners along the way to give five cent fare between Akron and Barberton. They would grade the thirty foot strip, plank and maintain all street crossings, furnish electric light at each street crossing, and permit advertising for a certain period on and in their cars.

When I started to ascertain the ownership of the lands in question, I found that the late N. R. Steiner had recently bought the Witner farm, adjoining the land I had purchased from Mr. Sours. I explained Mr. Christy's proposal to Mr. Steiner, and told him that I had about as much land as I could safely handle, in fact, would like to sell part of my holdings. Mr. Steiner told me that he had other men associated with him, and that his company would buy any land that I did not want, and that he would quietly round up the remaining land necessary to carry out Mr. Christy's project.

In a very short time, the land was all in the hands of Mr. Steiner and myself, and a contract was entered

into by us, with Mr. Christy. There was some delay in deciding the name of the new town. Mr. Steiner and his associates discussed the matter with the writer at several meetings. I remember that at the last meeting I attended, it was decided, and I was agreeable, that we give the town the name of "Hazeldale" or "Hazelhurst" in honor of Mr. Steiner's daughter, Hazel, (now Mrs. B. A. Polsky). I have never learned why Mr. Steiner changed the name to Kenmore.

Mr. Steiner and his associates organized the "Akron Realty Company," with Mr. Steiner as president and treasurer, H. B. Camp, vice president, and Wm. B. McIntosh, secretary. Horatio T. Willson was the company's attorney, and other stockholders were U. T. Houriet, J. Harvey Smith, ex-county treasurer of Stark county, Royal Snyder, George C. Berry, and others. I sold this company about 40 acres, which was all of the Sours farm that lay north of the proposed boulevard. I included in the deed, without consideration, my half of the 100 foot boulevard. For some reason, never fully explained to me, the proposed location of the boulevard was shifted about 300 feet north, or to where it is now located, and with winding curves and deep cuts and files, instead of the straight line, with very little grading, in the location we had all agreed upon.

The surveys were completed by the writer, with Harry W. Alcorn as assistant. The plat showed 1500 lots, of which The Akron Realty Company owned 1000, and my portion was 250 lots, on the south end between Foust Road and Stop 97, and 250 at the north end, between the boulevard and Foust Road, and bounded on the East by Manchester Road and the Walsh street railway. The work of grading streets and the car line was started in the spring of 1901. The first sale of lots by the Akron Realty Company was widely adver-

tised. A carrier pigeon contest was the main feature, and brot many people to the opening sale, which was considered by the company to have been a successful sale. While I had joined in the expense of making surveys and recording plat, I handled the sale of my own property. For a few years following, Kenmore grew in a desultory manner. The panic of 1907 entirely stopped its growth for a year or so. In the meantime, Mr. Steiner died, in about the year 1902. The death of H. T. Willson and H. B. Camp followed.

In 1902, U. F. Houriet, an energetic young man, and a stockholder in the company, was given charge of the property. After several years of aggressive work on his part, he too, was stricken down, with appendicitis, and died suddenly.

All this was discouraging to the stockholders. After Mr. Houriet's death, Mr. Heminger was made manager, and remained in charge until the year 1906, when he resigned and was followed by T. Harvey Smith, with Miss Lenora Peters as secretary. Mr. Smith died in 1908, the year following the panic, and was succeeded by his son-in-law, J. Royal Snyder, who was executor of the estate of T. Harvey Smith. Mr. Snyder's brother, Harvey Snyder, and Miss Peters, were the active representatives at this period, and about 1908 the entire holdings of the Akron Realty Company were sold to Fred E. Smith.

I have in my possession now, a proposal made in 1909 by Mr. Smith, offering me all of the unsold lots, of which there were 280 large lots, at $60.00 per lot, and 40 small lots for $15 each. A total of $18,800. The small lots were business lots, and are now worth an average of $10,000 each, while the larger residence lots are worth approximately $1,500 each, making a total value at the present time of $820,000. I could not accept the offer, for I too, was land poor at the

time, although a small down payment and reasonable monthly payments were offered as a special inducement to buy. Wm. B. McIntosh and the writer are the only survivors of the men who organized, planned, and laid out Kenmore. Much might be said of the men who were interested here. N. R. Steiner, who was one of the fathers of early Kenmore, also did much to put what is now South Akron on the map in early days.

About the year 1908, Kenmore was incorporated, Chas. M. Smith having the honor of being the first mayor, and following him were: Lehman W. Baughman, Samuel Goodman, Joseph Nice, Ernie Kime, Aaron Falor, Sam Goodman, and the present incumbent, Harold V. Johnson.

About this period of the town's progress, the question of a paved county road between Akron and Barberton was being discussed by the citizens of both cities. Two routes were suggested to the county commissioners. The Boulevard route, and the Summit Hill road. O. C. Barber, C. H. Palmer, H. A. Galt, Isaac Harter, John Paul and others of Barberton, and a few of the land owners on Summit Hill road were putting up a strenuous fight for the Summit Hill route, while Fred E. Smith, Mayor Smith and the writer were for the other. The final decision was in favor of the minority, and was brought about by the Akron Chamber of Commerce being asked to appoint a committee to determine the shortest and most practical route, the one favoring the greatest number of people. This committee recommended the Boulevard route to the county commissioners, and soon thereafter the south side of the boulevard was paved, the county paying about 85 per cent of the cost, and abutting property owners 15 per cent, one-half of which was assessed against the 30-foot right of way in the cen-

ter of the Boulevard owned by the N. O. T. & L. Company. The amount was small, compared with the assessment of over $100,000 against this same company several years ago when the north side of the boulevard was paved.

The building of this paved road brot new life to Kenmore. Next to the street railway, it was the greatest factor in the development of the city. New homes were built. Stores, churches, schools, banks and other buildings followed, and the city has continued to grow with little, if any, interruption.

At about this time, 1919, I was approached by the Gaugler brothers, (Levi, Dan, Henry and Simon), who owned 260 acres of the finest land in this section of the country. I had tried unsuccessfully to buy part of this land when I built the Belt line through it several years before. After some negotiations, I purchased the tract, and paid the highest price ever paid in that vicinity. This land lies in the crescent formed by Akron, Kenmore and Barberton, almost touching the corporation lines of the three cities. The Belt line traverses the crescent from east to west. The Ohio canal and Tuscarawas river bound it on the south, Nesmith Lake on the east, and Springfield road on the north. This gave me the inspiration for a new industrial town, to be named Coventry, after the township in which it was located. My first experience in helping to build Barberton was as an employee, my second experience in the town building of Kenmore was as part owner. Now I was to build a town of my own. Soon the engineers were on the ground, 12 miles of streets were graded, eight miles of cement sidewalks, and four miles of water mains laid, trees and shrubs planted, and the land allotted into 1,100 building lots, and 100 acres paralleling both sides of the Belt line, divided into five and 10-acre manufacturing sites.

The allotment was placed on the market late in the fall of 1919, just when the first intimation of the great commercial and financial panic which was the portentous aftermath of the World War, was being felt by the people of the Akron district. The sale was only partially successful, and many of those who purchased lots, stopped payments during the years 1920-1921.

I had scarcely purchased and developed this tract of land, when Kenmore officials decided to take it, as well as all lands lying between the railroads and the Ohio canal, (under the protests of land owners), into the city of Kenmore. This was done, and it added additional burdens to my already heavy carrying charges. (burdens incidental to the panic), by increasing my tax valuation from $40,000, with a tax rate of 7/10ths of one per cent, or $280 per year, to a tax valuation of $880,000, with a tax rate of 2.20 or $19,360 tax per year. Later, the County Board of Review reduced this valuation to $440,000. The Palmer Match Company has built a modern brick building in this district and has been in operation about one year. The Whitman & Barnes Company of Akron, employing 600 men, has purchased 15 acres, The Good Rubber Company has built a brick and tile building, and has been in operation since the first of this year. The Western Reserve Rubber Company has purchased a site, and other factories are contemplating locating there.

Space will not permit me to relate the history of banks, churches, lodges, civic organizations, nor can I tell of the ministers, physicians, lawyers, merchants, editors, et al, who have done much to make Kenmore a home city. Like Barberton, Kenmore's population is about 90 per cent home owners—the most potent of all human endeavor for happiness and contentment.

Kenmore's present population is 18,000. Its phenomenal growth is proved by figures submitted by

Dr. C. E. McCorkle, the head of the public school system. Dr. McCorkle, a graduate of Ohio University, a post graduate of Clarke University and Harvard College, was appointed superintendent of schools in 1919. At that time there were 1,500 pupils enrolled. Today there are close to four thousand. There are 6,000 children under 18 years of age in the city. Applying the school rule of ascertaining population by multiplying this 6,000 by three, the total of 18,000 is arrived at.

Dr. McCorkle estimates the future as follows: 20,000 population by Dec. 1 of this year; between 25,000 and 30,000 by 1930. There are at present 700 pupils in the high school. More than 100 employees, including 90 teachers are housed in seven modern, well equipped, brick school buildings, with several temporary frame buildings to care for the overflow. Dr. McCorkle is a constructive worker, and is getting satisfactory results. He is a plain man, doing his work in a plain, common-sense manner. He has put Kenmore schools in a class surpassed by none in the state.

The 550 acres of land purchased for Mr. Barber and his associates in 1890 for the site of Barberton, cost approximately $75,000, and was on the tax duplicate for $16,000, with a tax rate of 7/10ths of one per cent, or $112 per year. The tax duplicate for Barberton in 1924 was $27,000,000, with a 2.36 rate, making a total annual tax of $637,200.

The 300 acres of land purchased by the writer and the late N. R. Steiner and his associates in 1901 for the site of Kenmore cost approximately $45,000, and was on the tax duplicate for $14,000, with a tax rate of 8/10ths of one per cent, or $112 annually. The tax duplicate for Kenmore in 1924 was $16,000,000, with a tax rate of 2.30, making a total annual tax of $368,000.

There is no visible dividing line between Cuyahoga Falls, Akron, Kenmore, and Barberton. The entire dis-

tance, approximately 18 miles, is built up, with a continuity of homes.

Barberton's percentage of growth as shown in the 1920 census was approximately 100 per cent. Akron's percentage was 200 per cent, Kenmore's 300 per cent, and Cuyahoga Falls' 200 per cent, making an average growth for the four cities of 200 per cent, with a combined population of 265,000 people.

Akron was the 35th city in the United States in the 1920 census; Barberton 375th, and Cuyahoga Falls the 450th. The combining of the four cities would immediately put Akron into third, if not second, place in the state, and somewhere between 18th and 22nd place in the United States. There is nothing impossible about putting this plan into effect. While it may appear to be a revolutionary suggestion, I go farther, and will say that I believe many of our economic problems would be solved if it were possible to merge, consolidate, or amalgamate, it makes no difference what you call the plan, the entire county into the City of Akron.

I ask readers of these reminiscences to make allowances for any errors of names, times and places, or any omissions. My time has been limited, and with only my memory to supply the data herein set forth, error is likely to creep in.

PART III
Individual Surveys of Akron's Many Activities

Municipal Government and Works

By Vincent S. Stevens

AKRON as a city was governed for nearly fifty-five years under the Federal plan. Under the general provision of the State Constitution, January 1, 1920, its form of government was changed to that of a charter city under the Home Rule provision in the constitution of Ohio adopted in 1912.

The Village of Akron, later known as "South Akron," viz. Main and Exchange sts., was platted in 1825.

Akron's first town charter went into effect in 1836 following the filing of a petition by North and South Akron jointly with the general assembly of Ohio in 1835. The population of Akron in 1835 was estimated at about 900 although when a bank charter was asked for in the latter part of that year the population was stated to be 1300. Seth Iredell was elected as the first Mayor in June, 1836. A recorder and five trustees were elected at the same time and the management of the city's affairs was carried on under their direction. It remained as an incorporated village until January, 1865.

Akron became a city under a resolution adopted by the village council in December, 1864, and the new form of government went into effect on January 21, 1865. The city had a population at that time of 5,066 and was divided into three wards. The first election under the city government was held Monday, April 13, 1865, and James

Mathews was elected Mayor. As the city grew the council was increased in size by adding new wards.

The city's affairs continued to be operated under the federal plan with but little change until the Board of Commissioners plan was inaugurated in 1893 and continued for about 10 years. In 1910, under additional legislation passed by the Ohio legislature, the Mayor was given power to appoint a safety director and service director, and these three constituted a Board of Control. This board had direct supervision over the police and fire departments and awarded contracts for the city's business under legislation enacted by a City Council composed of three councilmen elected at large and one from each of seven wards. The president of the Council was also elected at large.

Under the constitutional amendments adopted in 1912 cities were permitted to adopt a charter which would establish the form of government. The amendment provided that such a charter should be drafted by a commission of fifteen members elected at large by the voters of the city. Action under this amendment was taken in April, 1913, when a charter commission was elected. The commission spent several months in framing a charter embodying the commission form of government and providing for the election at large of three commissioners. This charter was submitted to a vote of the people at the election in the fall of 1913 but it failed to carry by the lack of 91 votes.

The movement for a charter form of government was taken up by a Citizens Committee of One Hundred again in 1917 and a charter commission of fifteen members was elected in November of that year. Its members were: E. E. Workman, president; Fred M. Harpham, vice-president; Rev. George P. Atwater, George W. Billow, Clarence Cranz, Jerome Dauby, G. Carl Dietz, E. D. Fritch, Dr. C. T. Hill, Walter F. Kirn, Wm. H. Kroeger,

E. C. McQueeney, James Shaw, A. J. Tidyman and E. E. Zesiger. D. A. Donovan acted as secretary.

The Commission organized early in 1918 and spent many months in considering the provisions which should be incorporated in the new Home Rule charter. The new charter was submitted to a vote at the November election, and it was adopted by the following vote: For, 11,552; Against, 6,298.

The Home Rule charter adopted at the election in November, 1918, went into effect January 1, 1920, with a mayor and eight councilmen elected at large. This council appointed a chief administrator who was given the power to appoint directors of the Departments of Law, Public Service, Public Safety, Social Service, and Finance. The chief administrator was made responsible to the coun-

First Fire Engine House, Erected 1841.

cil for the proper administration of all of the affairs of the city and the directors of the different departments acted as his cabinet. The Director of Health was appointed by and made subject to the supervision and con-

trol of the Health Commission which was appointed by the chief administrator.

Another important feature of this charter provided for a City Planning Commission composed of seven members, five of whom were appointed by the mayor, and of which the mayor and the chief administrator were ex-officio members. This commission was given considerable power in passing upon planning of subdivisions and the laying out of streets and boulevards. The zoning ordinance which went into effect October 15, 1922, was prepared under the direction of the city planning commission. This zoning ordinance provided for the classification of the uses of property for various purposes and for restrictions so as to set aside certain sections of the city as residence districts, apartment house districts, retail business districts, commercial districts and industrial districts.

Changes were made in the home rule charter at a special election in June, 1921, whereby the election of councilmen was changed to provide for the election of three at large and one from each of eight wards.

Further amendments to the charter were made at the August primaries in 1923 by a vote of 7,266 for, to 7,094 against, under which the office of the Chief Administrator was abolished and his powers were transferred to the mayor, elected at large. The change went into effect January 1, 1924.

The mayors of the town, village and city of Akron from 1835 to 1925 have been Seth Iredell, John Curtis Singletary, Lucius V. Bierce, Arad Kent, Harvey H. Johnson, Philo Chamberlain, Israel E. Carter, George Bliss, Charles G. Ladd, Frederick Wadsworth, Philip N. Schuyler, William T. Allen, Nathaniel Finch, Frederick A. Nash, George W. McNeil, Henry Purdy, Charles A. Collins, George D. Bates, James Matthews, Lucius V. Bierce, John L. Robertson, Henry Purdy, Levi S. Herrold, James F. Scott, John M. Fraze, Samuel A. Lane,

Lorenzo Dow Walters, Louis D. Seward, William H. Miller, L. D. Watters, E. R. Harper, W. E. Young, W. B. Doyle, Charles W. Kempel, William T. Sawyer, Frank W. Rockwell, William J. Laub and D. C. Rybolt.

Akron's municipal water works is the city's finest asset. The inhabitants of the city were furnished water by a pumping system first under a contract made with the Akron Water Works Company by the City Council, July 1, 1880, when the original water system was installed. As the city increased in size the water furnished by this company from Summit Lake and a few wells became inadequate in quantity and poor in quality, and in 1912 the city bought out the water works system owned by the company and constructed a reservoir in the valley of the Cuyahoga River about three miles above Kent as a new source of water supply. The filtration beds and pumping station are located just below the reservoir and the water is pumped to a storage reservoir on one of the hills in the eastern part of the city. This reservoir with auxiliary reservoirs on hills in the southern and southwestern sections of the city maintain adequate pressure throughout Akron. Akron has now one of the most complete municipal water works systems in this country and in 1925 it represents an investment of about $11,000,000.

Another of Akron's important municipal improvements was the construction of the North Hill Viaduct which was completed and dedicated in October, 1922. It is 2800 feet in length.

Millions of dollars have been expended during the past few years in rebuilding the city's sewerage system and about three million dollars will be expended on the city's sewage disposal plant which is to be constructed in 1925-26 in the valley of the Cuyahoga River below Akron.

The fire fighting forces of the city were early organized on the volunteer basis, but they were established as

one of the departments of the city in 1866. M. C. McNeil was the first chief of the department. Fire Chief John T. Mertz has been at the head of the Akron Fire Department since 1901. The members of the department were placed on a full pay basis March 2, 1903. Akron was one of the first cities in the United States to completely motorize its Fire Department.

Policing of the city was carried on in the early days under marshalls who were elected every two years, from 1870 to 1898. They had a small force of police officers under them. The Police Department of Akron was organized in 1898, and H. H. Harrison was appointed as chief of the department. He served until the night of the riot, August 20, 1900, when the City Hall was burned. Chief of Police John Durkin has been serving at the head of the Police Department since December 4, 1900.

Akron is celebrating its one hundredth anniversary, also, by the erection of a handsome new City Hall.

Akron's area now covers about twenty-five square miles.

Akron's parks with a total area of about four hundred acres, have come to the people of this city largely as gifts from our public spirited citizens.

General Simon Perkins started this movement in 1825 when in making the plat of South Akron he set aside five acres for parks on the west side of Bowery st. and north and south of Exchange st. Akron is, thus, also celebrating the centennial of its first park. The part south of Exchange st. was later taken for school grounds and the school is still called the Perkins School. The part north of Exchange st. is called Perkins Square.

The next park gift came from Colonel Simon Perkins, the son of General Perkins, when in 1848 he gave to the city the land lying between Prospect, Park and Summit sts. and the railroad tracks. It was named Grace Park

in honor of his wife, and a statue of Colonel Perkins stands at the southwest entrance to the park. He also gave what is known as Union Park to the city.

Samuel Thornton in laying out his addition to the "Town of Akron" dedicated five acres for park purposes at the corner of Thornton and Grant sts. This is called Pleasant Park.

General L. V. Bierce deeded the land for a park in 1875 on which the Public Library now stands.

Colonel George T. Perkins, following the example of his ancestors, deeded in 1900 the beautiful woodland tract of seventy-six acres lying south of Maple st. and west of Edgewood av., now known as Perkins Park.

Frank H. Mason gave the city twenty-three and one-half acres in the valley of the Little Cuyahoga River near North st., in 1912. It was named Elizabeth Park as a memorial to his daughter.

J. Edward Good's gift of one hundred and eighty acres lying west of Hawkins av. in 1924, gave Akron its largest park. It afforded ample space for the laying out of a municipal golf course. It has been named the J. Edward Good Park.

The city secured a forty-six acre tract lying along the northeast shore of Summit Lake, in taking over the Akron Water Works Company's property. This was set aside for park purposes, and named Margaret Park in memory of Mrs. Margaret C. Barnhart in recognition of her services in behalf of the playground movement in Akron.

The city also purchased the other small park areas known as Glendale, McLain, Hill and Neptune Parks.

Street lighting of very early days was by the use of oil lamps, first installed at public expense in 1855. Then came gas supplied through mains laid under the city's streets, first put into effect under a contract made by the City Council with the Akron Gas Company, November 19, 1872. When electricity came into use, the city estab-

lished a municipal lighting plant in 1880, and Akron was one of the first cities to attempt to light its streets with iron towers about one hundred feet in height and electric lights at the top. The city went out of the municipal lighting business in 1883. Gas lamps continued to be used, supplementing the electric system, until recent years.

Environs and Landmarks

By Mary Paul

AKRON, embracing within its present limits a part of the original townships of Springfield, Tallmadge, Coventry and Portage, can set forth as a part of its early history, some of the early events of each of these townships. Their common corner is at the intersection of the center lines of Johnston and South Arlington sts.

Long before our city was founded and at the time when all this country was wilderness, the old Indian Trail or "Portage Path" was a part of the ancient line between the Western Indians and the Indians of the Six Nations. Over this trail the Indians carried their canoes and other belongings from the Cuyahoga river to the Tuscarawas in making the journey from Lake Erie to the Ohio river.

By the Greenville Treaty of 1795, the United States acquired from the Indians the title to all the territory east of this line. Therefore it can be seen that about one hundred and thirty years ago a part of the lands of our city was in the United States while the remainder was not.

Beginning on the Cuyahoga river at Old Portage, just north of Akron, the Path runs westwardly about half a mile until it strikes high ground; turning southerly it follows closely the line of Portage Path road until it reaches the Copley road; then, still southerly through Perkins Park, crossing Euclid av. between Mallison and Raymond sts.; then southwesterly to a point just east of East av. at Wooster av.; then southerly crossing Thornton st. between the Manchester road and La Croix av.; then to a point in Manchester road south of Blanche st.; thence following closely the line of Manchester road; through to the Portage Landing on the Tuscarawas river.

Moses Warren by his survey of the path in 1797 found

the length of the same to be about eight miles. There are several beautiful monuments now marking points upon it.

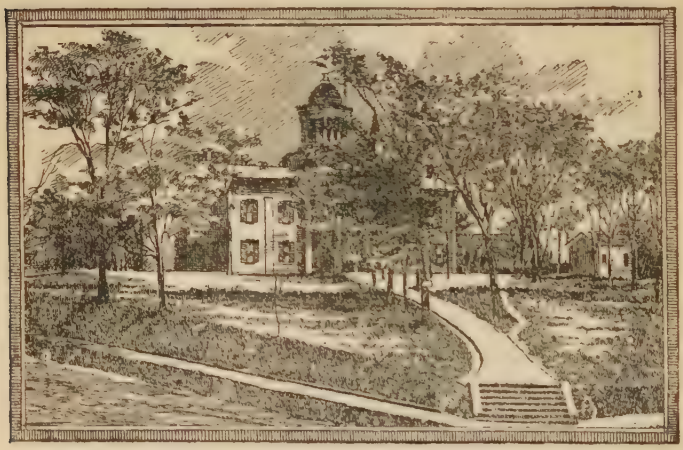
During the War of 1812, General Wadsworth established a camp at Old Portage at the Upper Headquarters, which was a short distance from the mouth of the Cuyahago and was the place where the surveyors of the Connecticut Land Company had encamped during their survey.

A search of the old records shows many interesting facts in regard to the early titles of lands in our city. One of the most important of these, but one that is very little known, is the copy of the Book of Drafts as it was called. This plays a very important part in the titles of all the lands in the Connecticut Western Reserve. It being in this book that the record of the original drawings for land by the members of the Connecticut Land Company was made. We find that the title to many parcels of land has been in the same family for fifty years and more and many buildings are at least seventy years old. These are located in many parts of the city but mostly in the southeast, central and middle-west districts. This is not a very great age but as our city is a mere century old buildings of this sort are considered landmarks. They are too numerous to mention, yet we are proud of them and hope to see some of them permanently preserved.

Akron has but few points of historical interest but its citizens have been proven as pioneers in many ways. Major Miner Spicer came to Portage township in 1810, bought land and returned to Connecticut. In June, 1811, he started back to Ohio with his family and Amos Spicer and Paul Williams, coming by ox-team and arrived in September. He then built a small log cabin, which was the first in the township. This was located near the southwest corner of Vine and Fountain sts. It is interesting to note that in 1823, Spicer paid the sum of $1.58 as the tax on his 158 acres of land. Part of this land is

still known as "Spicertown." The old Spicer cemetery was located on land, which is now a part of the campus of the University of Akron.

The first cabin in that portion of Coventry township now within the city limits was built by Daniel Haines in 1806 near the northeast corner of the township. He also planted the first orchard and sometime afterwards started the first cider mill. After a short time his farm was pur-



The Original Court House. The New Court House Was Erected on the Same Lot and Nearly Covers It.

chased by Jesse Allen who came here in 1811. Charles Sumner moved to this farm in 1834 and built the stone house still standing and it is on the land willed by his daughter, A. Louise Sumner, to be used for the "Sumner Home for the Aged."

Among the earlier homes built in that section of the city were the farm houses of the several Allens, Ithamer Bellows, James Collins, Richard and Titus Chapman, George Falor, and the several Hart homes. Some few of these are still standing.

Middlebury was founded by Captain Joseph Hart, a sailor, who came here in 1807, and Aaron Norton. The village was laid out in 1818 and at the time of the laying out of Akron was one of the most important commercial centers and market towns in this section of the country. The grist mill known as the Middlebury Mills was one of the first in this section and did most of the grinding for a large district. Early settlers of most of Medina county patronized these mills.

The first school building was on one-half acre of ground in the "Mill Tract" of Hart and Norton and was conveyed to the "Inhabitants of the township of Tallmadge" in 1818, several years after the building had been erected. What we now know as the "Brown Lots" was a part of the 115 acre farm of Charles Brown, who came here in 1817, and bought the section lying north of Buchtel av. and west of Arlington st. in 1834.

Samuel Newton, who settled in Middlebury in 1815, was for many years the keeper of one of the leading hotels of northern Ohio. It stood at the intersection of Kent, Market and North Arlington sts. Charles Boosinger in 1807 made the first settlement in that portion of the city.

In 1825, General Simon Perkins of Warren, owner of a large tract of land in Portage township, foreseeing that the construction of the Ohio canal and locks at this point would offer great opportunities for shipping of produce and manufacturing, induced Paul Williams, owner of the lands to the east, to join with him in laying out village lots.

The survey was made in the months of June and July, 1825, by Joshua Henshaw, surveyor, and the plat of the "Town Plat of Akron in Portage County, on the Canal at the Portage Summit," was filed and recorded in December, 1825.

This plat covers the territory between Center st. on the

north; the railroads on the east; East Chestnut st., the canal and Harbor st. (Beach st.) on the south; and Pine st. on the west.

Nearly all the streets laid out on this plat were 99 feet wide and a few were but 66 feet wide. A number of these streets have since been narrowed. This plat shows a public square (now Perkins Square) and grounds for public buildings now used for school purposes.

The first house erected in the town was at the corner of South Main and Exchange sts. The timber was cleared from the land and the building constructed in September, 1825, after the town was located but before it was named.

The farm house of Paul Williams, a one story frame building, on the laying out of the new village was found to be in the center of South Broadway just south of Buchtel av., and was moved a short distance east, where it stood, until torn down very recently.

A large number of lots were sold and residences and shops were built. At this time many log shanties were built for Irish laborers working on the canal (on the land to the north of the village) and this section was called "Dublin" for many years.

Richard Howe, who had been a member of the Board of Engineers selected to survey the canal, moved to Akron, in 1829, and built the brick house at the corner of East Exchange and South High sts. He was the resident engineer, covering the territory between Cleveland and Massillon, a distance of about sixty-seven miles, on horseback.

Akron's first school, a small frame structure, was located at the northeast corner of East Buchtel av. and Broadway and was afterwards replaced by the one-story stone building, which still stands there and is now owned by the City of Akron and used for a supply station.

The Ohio canal, which was to connect Lake Erie

with the Ohio river was begun in 1825 and finished in 1827 and the first regular boat to navigate its waters was the Ohio, which was built on the east side of the Lower Basin and launched June 27th, 1827, and started to Cleveland at the rate of three miles an hour. Akron became a port in 1827 and Woolsey Wells was appointed canal collector.

The survey and location of the Pennsylvania canal was completed in 1827. It commenced in the Village of Akron, where the proposed canal would unite with the Ohio canal in a large basin and the line ran easterly crossing the Little Cuyahoga river in Middlebury and then in a northeasterly direction towards Franklin Mills (now Kent). The purpose of this canal was to make water connection between Cleveland and Pittsburg and it was completed in 1841 from Akron to Beaver, Pa. It flourished for a time but the completion of the Cleveland & Mahoning railroad led to its gradual disuse and it was finally abandoned. There are still many traces of this canal in the northeastern part of the city.

In 1820, Dr. Eliakim Crosby, to whom we owe much of our early progress, settled in Middlebury and purchased the Cuyahoga furnace property, being a part of the land now owned by The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. He manufactured plows and other useful articles. In 1832, he moved to near the corner of North Howard and Beech sts., and a year or two afterwards bought the land at the corner of West Market and Maple sts., now occupied by St. Vincent's school and church and resided there until he removed from the city in 1853.

In 1831, he laid the plans for his Cascade mill race, which was to bring the waters of the Little Cuyahoga to Akron from Middlebury. The same was dug and

the Stone Mill at Lock 5 was built and put into operation in 1833.

Soon afterwards Dr. Crosby made his plans for the bringing of the waters of the Cuyahoga to Akron. He purchased the land and laid out "Summit City." In 1837, a charter was granted to The Portage Canal and Manufacturing Company, who proceeded to start work on the race, which was about four miles long. This was completed in 1844 but did not prove a success. This portion of the city was known as the "Chuckery" for many years.

In 1833, the plat of the Village of North Akron, was made for Simon Perkins and surveyed by Albert G. Mallison, surveyor, and was filed and recorded in the Records of Portage County. In 1835, a map showing the original plat with alterations and additions was filed and recorded. This is the part of the city now covered by the main business district.

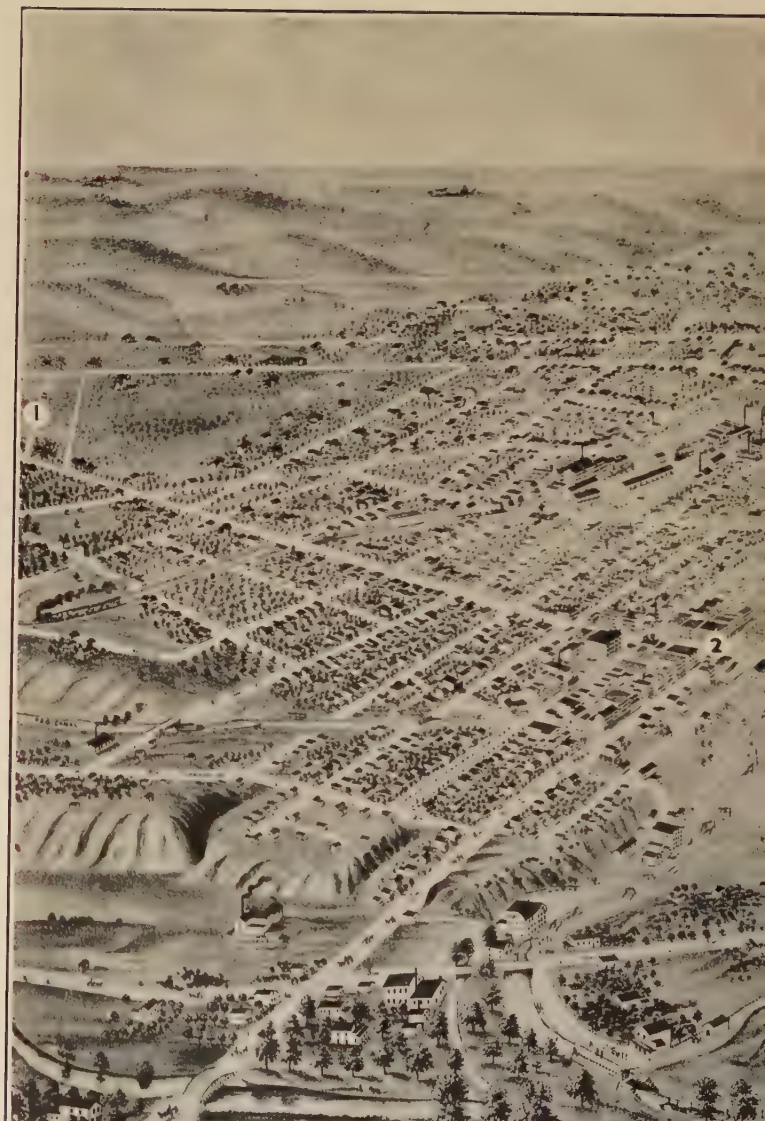
Among the many of the earlier buildings built in this section was the Aetna Furnace near Lock 12 by Parsons, Dubois & Co., the Portage Furnace on the north side of West Market st., just west of the canal, the Center Mill afterwards the Allen Mills. The stone store at the southeast corner of Market and Howard sts., was built before 1840. This must have been a building of considerable importance as it was assessed in 1840 at a value of $4,000, while the land on which it stood had a tax value of $107.

Among the many important additions to the original plat of Akron were the Eastern Addition, the Ely Allotment in 1849; the Perkins Addition in 1846; the Town of Summit in 1841; Bartges Addition in 1863; Brown lots in 1865; and Thornton and Steese lots in 1866.

That portion of the city known as the "Gore," dividing North and South Akron, was bounded by

Puzzle: Find Summit County and Akron. This map of Ohio was made about 1812. The original is in possession of Mr. Frank C. Wilson.

The original Middlebury Cemetery, recently restored to orderly condition by Cuyahoga Portage Chapter D. A. R. Six soldiers of the Revolution are buried here.



A bird's-eye view of Akron, 1870, looking so
1, Fay st.; 2, Market and Howard sts.;
(From an original lithograp

Cuyahoga st., North Hill. Figures indicate:
Exchange; 4, North st., west of Maple.
on of Mr. H. A. Parker.)

The Ohio Canal was not only useful but often picturesque. This photo and the view below, were made by Mr. George F. Kunz, 1896. The above picture was taken near Lock 18.

Twenty-one locks led down from the Summit level to the Cuyahoga river level. View shows Lock 17.

Quarry st. on the North and Center st. on the south. Many of the early churches were built on this strip. The original court house and jail built after Summit county was organized in 1840 were placed on this strip. The jail was located on the east side of Broadway on the land now occupied by the county garage. The present court house, jail, new City building, the Armory and many of our most modern office buildings are also on the "Gore."

We have within our boundaries, Summit Lake, whose waters through the outlet to the south reach the Atlantic ocean, by way of the Tuscarawas, the Muskingum, the Ohio, the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico; while its waters flowing to the north reach the same ocean by way of the Cuyahoga river, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and the river and Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The Little Cuyahoga river flows through the eastern and central parts of the city and along its banks were built many of the early important mills and factories. One of these was the Austin Powder Mill, which was located in the "Old Forge" on land now belonging to the county and used as a fair grounds. This was also known as the "Powder Patch."

To the east we find Blue Pond, a body of water of considerable size whose northern bank was a favorite spot for recreation and picnics many years ago; while during the winter months its ice was much enjoyed by skating parties. Mannings Pond in the southwestern part of the city is also large enough to receive mention.

Along a part of our northern boundary we find the Cuyahoga river, which has been mentioned several times, and along whose banks we find much beautiful scenery.

The High Level Bridge across this river has aided

very much in opening up the territory to the north of us. While to the south and east of us we find a great number of small lakes, which afford beautiful spots for recreation and pleasure.

Yesterdays With Akron Doctors

By Dr. W. S. Chase

WHILE doctors, as a class, have never been credited with high grade business judgment and foresight, it may not be out of place to open this review with the statement that industrial Akron was made possible by the vision and work of two physicians—Dr. Eliakim Crosby (1779-1854) and Dr. B. F. Goodrich (1840-1888).

Dr. Crosby was born in Litchfield, Connecticut. He read medicine in Buffalo in 1806 and in 1809 went to Simcoe, Canada. In the war of 1812 he entered the United States service as a surgeon and in consequence all his property in Canada was confiscated by the Government. In 1820 he moved to Ohio and located in Middlebury (East Akron). While practicing his profession intermittently his chief attention was given to business matters. He conceived and carried out the "Cascade mill race" project, completed in 1833, which carried the waters of the Little Cuyahoga river in a race bed from East Akron to Lock 5 on the Ohio canal, furnishing the first real water power that started the wheels of business in Akron. This was followed by a far more pretentious scheme to divert the waters of the Big Cuyahoga at High Bridge Glens and bring them to North Akron by a race constructed high above the river bed. This was actually accomplished and the water was turned into the race bed May 27, 1844, falling into the Little Cuyahoga valley at a point between what is now North Howard and Cuyahoga sts., but it was never turned on again and Dr. Crosby's second great venture, on account of

various difficulties and the rapid advance of steam power, was a failure.

Crosby st. and Crosby school are Akron's only present day monuments bearing his name.

Dr. Goodrich, who founded the first rubber company west of the Alleghanies, when he organized the B. F. Goodrich Company, at Akron, in 1870, was born in Ripley, New York, in 1840—graduated from the Western Medical College, Cleveland, in 1861—entered the army and served through the war, but never, thereafter, practiced his profession. He died in Colorado in 1888.

The first physician to practice in Summit county was Dr. Moses Thompson (1776-1858) who located at Hudson with the first settlers in 1800. At that time the nearest physician to him was at Warren, O., and his practice extended all the way from Lake Erie to 50 miles south of Hudson. His visits were made on foot, horseback and by canoe. Akron was not then on the map and Middlebury was not founded until 1807.

Tallmadge was the second Summit county village and its first physician was Amos Case Wright, who built a log cabin on a tract of land formerly owned by Colonel Tallmadge. Mrs. Wright kept fires burning to frighten away the wolves when he was away at night on professional calls. His drugs were procured by a trip to Pittsburgh. Three weeks were required for the round trip.

Dr. Amos Wright, Jr. (1808-1863) was born in the log cabin. He returned from Harvard Medical School in 1827 to find Tallmadge and surrounding country in the midst of an epidemic of "Black Tongue Fever" (probably severe Typhoid). Terror reigned. Death had taken most of the sufferers. In those days the theory of disease was peculiar. A "humor" was supposed to be in the blood. Hence it was freely drained

away. Emetics, cathartics, sudorifics and abstention from drinking water, were thought to be useful by the older doctors, but not by the young doctor, Amos.

His results were phenomenal. His 114 cases recovered with the exception of two who were dying when he was called.

The second Amos Wright's son also became a physician—Samuel St. John Wright—born in 1852 and still in active practice in Akron. To his credit stands the first local use of therapeutic lamps and he also introduced to Akron practice, about 12 years ago, the diathermic current, which now occupies a distinct therapeutic place in most well equipped hospitals.

Dr. Titus Chapman was probably the first physician who began practice in the territory now known as Akron. He came to Middlebury shortly after the war of 1812 and practiced there about 30 years when he moved to Tallmadge and later to Oberlin, where he died.

Dr. Luther Hanchett settled in Middlebury about 1815, practicing there about 20 years when he moved to Michigan, where he died in 1840. His brother, Dr. Elijah Hanchett (1776-1843) moved from New York in 1832 and became associated with his brother. He was in Middlebury only a short time, moving to Tallmadge in 1836 where he died in 1843.

Dr. Joseph Cole was the first regular practitioner of medicine in what at that time was Akron proper, as distinguished from Cascade or North Akron and Middlebury. He was born in Winfield, Herkimer county, New York, in 1795 and graduated from Fairfield Medical College in his native state. In 1824 he located in what is now Old Portage, where he lived until 1827, when he moved to Akron and practiced here until his death in 1861. For years he was looked

upon by residents of Akron as the "old standby" in their times of trouble.

Among other early day physicians, many of whom were men of exceptional force and talent, may be mentioned: Theodore Richmond, Horace A. Ackley, E. F. Bryan, Dana D. Evans, Wareham West, William T. Huntington, Edwin Angel, Elijah Curtis, Elias L. Munger, A. Kilbourn, Mendall Jewett, William P. Cushman, Elias W. Howard, Stephen H. Coburn, Samuel W. Bartges, John Weimer, William Bowen, Daniel A. Scott, George P. Ashman, Byron S. Chase, Thomas McEbright, Charles R. Pierce, Thomas M. Leight, Warren J. Underwood, William C. Jacobs, Henry C. Howard, O. E. Brownell, A. F. Chandler, J. K. Holloway, Albert C. Belden, George G. Baker, H. M. Fisher, S. T. Odell, Abner E. Foltz, J. W. Rockwell, Orrin D. Childs, Elizur Hitchcock, William K. Foltz, William Murdock, John A. Knowlton. And at a somewhat later date came such men as J. P. Boyd, W. W. Leonard, C. C. Davison, L. S. Sweitzer, L. J. Proehl and O. A. Lyon.

A few of these men, like Dr. Crosby and Dr. Goodrich, became actively engaged in business ventures. Dr. Samuel W. Bartges (1814-1882) dealt heavily in real estate. Two large additions to the city were opened by him—Bartges addition in the South, through which runs the street which bears his name and the Bartges-Mallison addition west of the canal and south of Wooster av. His real estate transactions embrace over 300 deeds given by him and more than 1,000 deeds executed by himself and wife.

Dr. Coburn (1809-1888) was also a large dealer in real estate—Coburn's addition, containing the street which bears his name, being a well known section of South Akron.

Dr. D. D. Evans came to Akron in 1836 and prac-

ticed here until his death in 1849. He was possessed of unusual medical ability for his time and for many years was regarded as the leading man in this part of Ohio.

He contracted Septicemia from a Cuyahoga Falls patient, probably suffering from Erysipelas and died within a few days. A post mortem examination of Dr. Evans' body was made in the presence of several of his associates. Two of them were infected. Dr. William T. Huntington died shortly afterward and Dr. Edwin Angel lost an arm and died from secondary effects of the infection a few years later. A brother-in-law, who nursed Dr. Huntington, also died, after a few days' illness.

Dr. Angel was another man of exceptional training and ability for the period in which he lived, when frequently a short course of reading in a doctor's office was all that laid the foundation of medical wisdom. He was born in 1802. At 16 he graduated from Union College and at 19 had completed his medical course. He then became assistant to Dr. Valentine Mott, one of the leading physicians of his time, and later practiced in Canandaigua with his father until he came to Akron in 1840. He died in 1855, aged 53.

A few of these men rounded out a near half century of practice, but no one of them quite equalled the record of Dr. E. W. Howard, who practiced continuously in the city of Akron from 1839 to the time of his death in 1890.

Among the oldest doctors now living in Akron and immediate vicinity are: Dr. W. S. Hough, of Cuyahoga Falls, retired, who graduated in 1866; Dr. J. N. McMaster, of Akron, born in 1844 and graduating in 1870—now in the 56th year of his practice; Dr. B. T. Keller, of Cuyahoga Falls, also born in 1844, graduated in 1871 and now in the 55th year of practice; Dr. H.

D. Taggart, of Akron, born in 1851, graduated in 1874 and in practice for 53 years. Dr. F. C. Reed, Dr. A. K. Fouser and Dr. Samuel St. John Wright, of Akron, graduated in 1876 and are now in the 50th year of their work as physicians.

Active physicians in Summit county, today, number 315—of whom 261 are in Akron. Barberton has 13; Clinton, 1; Copley, 2; Cuyahoga Falls, 14; Ellet, 2; Ghent, 1; Hudson, 4; Inland, 1; Kenmore, 6; Loyal Oak, 1; Mogadore, 1; Northfield, 1; Peninsula, 3; Springfield, 3 and Twinsburg, 1.

Some Noteworthy Achievements

The older generation of doctors did very little of what is known, today, as surgery. Treating fractures, other injuries and abscesses constituted the majority of so-called surgical cases in private practice. But many results were obtained, looked upon as miraculous, in spite of primitive methods. Akron, in early days, was not without its quota.

About 1870 a coal miner working at Krumroy suffered an unusual injury. While tamping a charge of blasting powder with a gas pipe 6 feet long a premature explosion drove the gas pipe clear through the man's skull so that it projected front and back. Dr. Mendall Jewett was called. By the application of main strength and with no aid from an anesthetic he pulled out the gas pipe and his patient made a good recovery. Barring some mental defects due to destruction of brain tissue he seemed as well as ever and was a frequent object of interest on early Akron streets until he became a public charge and was sent back to his home in France. This "operation" of course added tremendously to the surgical reputation of Dr. Jewett.

It is also of interest to note that credit has been

given to Dr. Jewett for the first diagnosis of appendicitis in an Akron patient.

While a number of men located in Akron immediately after the Civil War with real surgical ability, operations, regarded then as marvelous, are in the class of minor surgery today. About 1868 the first ligation of the Femoral artery in continuity ever done in this section was performed by Dr. Byron S. Chase on the late Andrew J. McNeil, Summit county court bailiff for a number of years.

The operation drew a coterie of interested practitioners for miles around.

Dr. Chase also performed the first tracheotomy, in Akron, for laryngeal Diphtheria. This was in 1874, the patient being Frank Hartman, the 8 year old son of Michael Hartman, West Market st.

Necrosis of the jaw from phosphorous poisoning was of frequent occurrence among workers in the old Akron Match works—now the Diamond Match Company plant at Barberton—before the dangers of handling phosphorous were fully understood. The operation of complete jaw excision for this condition was devised and first performed by Dr. W. C. Jacobs. Dr. Jacobs also, so far as can be learned, was the first Akron surgeon to perform a laparotomy, the patient being a woman with a large cystic tumor of the abdomen. The date has not been definitely fixed. The first abdominal section done in Akron is credited to Dr. Dunlap, of Dayton, who operated successfully in 1878 on the wife of a prominent Akron attorney for an ovarian tumor. This operation was performed at the residence.

Dr. H. H. Jacobs, who died in 1921, after practicing in Akron for 30 years following his graduation in 1891, was the first Akron physician to intubate for laryngeal Diphtheria. For a number of years he was

called by his associates whenever intubation was needed, having become skillful in the O'Dwyer method of intubation soon after its demonstration and successful trial in New York.

The clinical thermometer, introduced in New York in 1866, was first used in Akron in 1874 by Dr. A. E. Foltz (1840-1917) and Dr. W. C. Jacobs (1840-1905). Each contended he was the first one to employ it but absolute priority was never settled to the satisfaction of both.

In 1885 Dr. Foltz also devised the "Thermograph" which, under the name of "clinical chart," is used in all hospitals. He sold his patent for 50 cents and the purchaser made a profit of $50,000 or 100,000 per cent, which Dr. Foltz always thought was a fairly good profit even for the more modern days of frenzied finance.

The first Akron physicians to install and use X-Ray machines were Dr. Samuel St. John Wright and Dr. E. W. Barton. Dr. Barton took the first dental X-Ray pictures in 1907 and did considerable pioneer work along these lines in connection with his dentist brother, Dr. H. W. Barton. Their inspiration was the late Dr. Henry S. Upson, professor of Nervous Diseases in Western Reserve Medical College, Cleveland, who, while he never practiced in Akron, was born and raised here. His early vision regarding infected teeth, as causative factors of disease, has since been more than realized.

From Horses to Automobiles

In the earlier days horse back riding, walking and canoes were the methods of transportation employed by doctors. Then came the two-wheel gig and later the four-wheel vehicle. In days following the Civil War, when a fine appearing horse or a spanking team

attracted more attention on Akron's paveless streets than a flock of giant Zeppelins would attract today, it was not an unusual thing for a newly arrived doctor, with no practice, to spend a few hours every day driving madly about town, as though his services were in most urgent demand, in order to attract attention. And according to the testimony of several, who later became prominent, it used to work.

With the advent of the automobile, doctors were among the first users. Dr. H. H. Jacobs (1866-1921) bought a one-cylinder Olds and he was followed by Dr. I. C. Rankin with a four H. P. Locomobile Steamer. "In their chug-chug rattle traps," as one narrator records, "they daily defied death, and insult from cursing drivers, frightened horses and indignant dogs, in their round of professional calls."

Fate of a Murderer's Body

In the Seventies there was no provision in the Ohio law for furnishing bodies to Medical schools for dissection and various irregular methods were resorted to by medical students and doctors to obtain such material. State wards buried in the Potter's field were frequently taken. Leading Akron doctors were, at times, principals in such undertakings.

On November 21, 1871, John Hunter, the last and only murderer hanged in the Summit County jail, was buried in the Potter's field, southwest corner of Glendale cemetery. Three different groups planned to get the body. One, composed of Cleveland Medical College students, withdrew when they found a watchful superintendent on the job. The other two were rival groups of Akron doctors—one of them headed by Dr. L. S. Ebright (1844-1917).

The opposing group was frightened away by a revolver fired in the air by Supt. Wills. This group

thought to out-maneuver the others by getting an order from David L. King, president of the Cemetery Association, authorizing Superintendent Wills to withdraw his guards. To do this they routed King out of bed at his home, corner of East Market and Prospect sts., and then armed with this paper started for the cemetery. At the corner of Market and Howard sts., they met Ebright driving east in his top buggy with the side curtains up. Both parties stopped and King's friends couldn't help jibing Ebright about leaving the field so soon. They found out later, however, that when they stopped Ebright all that was mortal of John Hunter sat on the seat beside him. He and his watchful co-workers, as soon as the others departed, appeared on the scene and by rapid work dug up the body and placed it in Ebright's light buggy. This story was related by Ebright to the writer shortly before he moved from Akron to Sharon township, about 1914, and he also turned over to him the disarticulated skeleton of John Hunter, because, as he explained, the writer's father was one of the opposing group he out-generaled on the night of November 21, 1871.

Akron Epidemics

Akron has had several epidemics which gripped public interest while they lasted. During and after the old canal-digging days, Malaria, with its chills and fever, was a frequent visitor. But in later years there have been comparatively few cases of genuine Malaria here—in spite of the fact that a "touch of Malaria" was a diagnosis more frequently heard than any other—even down to more recent times.

Many cases of Typhoid fever were mistaken for Malaria. A number of these cases came to the attention of the late Dr. Charles E. Norris, who found

that the symptoms and physical findings did not square with that diagnosis. He located here soon after his graduation from the University of Michigan in 1887 and about 1890 jolted some of the older practitioners by questioning several of the Malaria diagnoses. All were not convinced even after young Norris had demonstrated the distinctive intestinal lesions of Typhoid fever in some of the cases which came to autopsy. But his painstaking work marked a genuine advance in the medical practice of Akron.

Up to 1893 few cases of Smallpox had been seen in Akron and, as the public looked upon it with genuine horror, a bombshell was exploded in December, 1892, when it was announced that Smallpox had broken out in the city. The first case was a colored man employed by Taplin, Rice & Company and there followed a total of 77 cases—most of them serious—with 17 deaths. Business was injured—Akron was quarantined against by neighboring towns and cities and quarantine was not lifted until May of 1893.

Akron then had a part time health officer, whose salary was $400 a year. This office was held by Dr. A. A. Kohler, still in active practice. His chief assistant, as sanitary policeman, was the late Michael W. Hoye, whose remuneration was $60 a month. The cases were treated by Dr. W. J. Emery, who was then City Physician and who attended to no other practice. After all was over, the City Council decided to present Health Officer Kohler with $400 provided he would give half of it to Sanitary Policeman Hoye. That politics was not sleeping even then is shown by the fact that this award was attacked vigorously by a local opposition paper as one of the greatest treasury raids of modern times.

The only place of isolation in those days was a "pest house" which stood in the middle of a large

field now part of the Sun Set View Allotment. Soon after this epidemic it was set on fire and destroyed.

A second epidemic of Smallpox occurred in 1902. This time there were 88 cases with 11 deaths. Dr. Kohler, again health officer, had charge of all of these cases, many of them treated in a recently erected contagious hospital on Diagonal Road, on land purchased by the city in 1894 for $1100, and upon part of which the Crouse school now stands.

An epidemic of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis in 1907 was noteworthy because it brought to Akron the first use, under definite control, of the serum perfected by Dr. Simon Flexner at the Rockefeller Institute for the treatment of this disease. The cases were treated at the City Hospital of Akron under the direction of Dr. W. S. Chase and Dr. M. L. Hunt, who was the first interne at the hospital. Their report, published in 1907, was the first report of a Meningitis epidemic treated with the Flexner serum.

The Influenza epidemic of 1889 and 1890 which struck Akron as well as all the rest of the world and the later pandemic of 1918 and 1919, with its great toll of deaths in Akron, kept Akron physicians busier than they had ever been kept before. In this last epidemic Dr. J. H. Metzger, one of the youngest and strongest physicians, lost his life.

Public Health Activities

Previous to 1915 there was little effort in Akron to carry on public health work according to the modern conception. Activities of the Health Department consisted in routine work, most of which had only a remote connection with preventive medicine. Attention was directed chiefly to nuisance abatement, placarding houses, burning incense to the gods of superstition in the form of sulphur fumes, recording of

births and deaths and a primitive form of milk inspection. Reporting of diseases was lax and incomplete.

During the period up to 1915 the Health Department consisted of a part-time health officer, one or two sanitary policemen, a dog catcher, a milk inspector and later a part time laboratory man. The annual budget never exceeded $16,000. Dr. A. A. Kohler served as a part time health officer for about eighteen years. Dr. B. B. Brashear, Dr. Eli Conn, Dr. L. S. Ebright, Dr. George M. Todd and Dr. E. S. Underwood also served for short periods before Dr. Kohler's last term. All were political appointments.

In the latter part of 1915 a movement was started to revitalize the health work in Akron. It was decided to organize a health department on a modern basis and appropriations made for that purpose by city council were supplemented the first year by donations from the large rubber companies.

In 1916 Dr. J. J. McShane was employed as Health Director on a full time basis. Dr. McShane was succeeded in 1917 by Dr. Chas. T. Nesbitt. Since 1915 the department has steadily grown and now has the following divisions: General Administration and Vital Statistics, Division of Communicable Disease Control, Dairy and Food Division, Division of Public Health Nursing, Sanitary Division, Division of Laboratories, Division of Venereal Disease Control and Contagious Disease Hospital.

Health Department employees now number sixty-five and the annual budget amounts to $125,000.

Dr. Nesbitt was succeeded in 1921 by Dr. Donald D. Shira, the present Director of Health.

That scientific public health work pays is evidenced by the fact that for several years past Akron has had the lowest general death rate of any city in the United

States with a population of over 100,000, and for the past two years the lowest infant death rate of any large city in Ohio.

One Akron doctor became internationally known in public health matters. Dr. Thomas W. Jackson, born in Akron in 1869, came back to his native town after graduation from Jefferson Medical College in 1892. After several years as a general practitioner here he joined the U. S. Army as an assistant surgeon and later became an authority on tropical diseases. In 1915 with Dr. Strong, of Harvard, he fought the Typhus Fever epidemic in Serbia and served on several tropical disease commissions. During the World War he was Epidemiologist with the United States forces in France. At the close of the war he became assistant health commissioner of Pennsylvania, which position he filled at the time of his death at Lake City, Florida, in April, 1925.

Medical Society One of Ohio's Oldest

The Summit County Medical Society, whose membership is made up largely of Akron doctors, is one of the oldest county societies in the State, having been founded in 1842, three years before the Ohio State Medical Association was born. It was reorganized under new Constitutions, to keep up with the times, in 1866, 1885, 1898 and 1922. Since 1842 it has had 627 members and its present enrollment is 318. It is only fair to state that the main growth of the Society in recent years has been due to the work of Dr. A. S. McCormick, now serving his 12th year as secretary.

Doctors who have represented this county in the Ohio State Legislature are Mendall Jewett (1815-1889) from 1855 to 1857. L. S. Ebright (1844-1917) from 1880 to 1882. H. S. Davidson from 1923 to date.

W. S. Hough and Eli Conn also served a term each in the State legislature.

The Society, made up largely, as it is of Akron doctors, has the following war record:

War of 1812—U. S. Army—4 surgeons.

U. S. Civil War (1861-1865) U. S. Army—one colonel, 15 surgeons; other ranks, 8—Total 24.

Russo-Turkish War (1877) Roumanian Army—one.

North West Rebellion (Canada) 1885—one.

Spanish American War (1898) U. S. Army—Officers 3; other ranks 5. Total 8.

South African War, 1899-1904—British Army, 1.

Philippine Campaign, 1899-1904—U. S. Army, 1.

World War, 1914-1918: British Army, 7; Canadian Army, 3; French Army, 3; German Army, 2; Italian Army, 1; Russian Army, 2; U. S. Army, 114; U. S. Navy, 10; Red Cross, 2; U. S. Public Health, 2. Total 147.

Origin and Growth of Akron Hospitals

Boniface De Roo, born in Holland, who left his whole estate for the purpose of founding a hospital in Akron, thought of Akron's hospital problems before any of her native sons.

In 1892 the City of Akron, custodian of the De Roo fund, then amounting to $10,766.17, turned it over as part of the original sum used in the purchase of the East Market st. home of Dr. S. W. Bartges for hospital purposes. The other donors, who contributed to this purchase, were Ohio C. Barber, $11,000 and Thomas W. Cornell, $10,000—making a grand total of $31,766.17. The old Bartges residence was then converted into the first real hospital Akron ever had.

As an evidence of progress it is interesting to note that in 1893, the first year of hospital operation, only

143 patients were treated, and a total of 2424 days' treatment given while in 1924, 4841 patients were admitted to the hospital and 54,002 days' treatment given.

In July, 1902, plans for the present main building were launched, when O. C. Barber contracted with the City Hospital board to pay for a new hospital on the original site. This building was formally turned over to the trustees on April 20, 1904, Mr. Barber's 63rd birthday. The actual cost was $203,600.94.

The first class to graduate from the City hospital school of nursing consisted of Miss Mary Bell and Miss Caroline Hammer. Total graduates to date number 159.

The next addition was Pavilion A built in 1918, with funds raised by popular subscription, at a cost of $200,500 and an addition to the Nurses' Home—also built in 1918—at a cost of $65,000.

The Winters property, with a frontage of 215 feet on Arch st., opposite the hospital grounds has just been purchased (April, 1925) for a future nurses' home at a cost of $40,000.

Total assets as now carried on the hospital books amount to $1,111,086.

Original board of trustees, 1892: Ohio C. Barber, C. E. Sheldon, I. C. Alden, George T. Perkins, D. E. Hill, George W. Crouse, P. E. Werner, J. A. Kohler, F. Schumacher, E. Steinbacher, Wm. McFarlin, F. M. Atterholt, Charles Baird.

Presidents of the Board of Trustees: Thomas W. Cornell, 1892; Ohio C. Barber, 1892-1912; C. B. Raymond, 1912-1922; Charles C. Benner, 1922-to date.

The first staff appointed in 1892:

Consulting surgeons: W. C. Jacobs, H. M. Fisher, E. Hitchcock.

Consulting physicians: L. S. Ebright, J. P. Boyd, William Murdoch.

Visiting physicians and surgeons: H. H. Jacobs, T. C. Parks, J. W. Rabe, L. S. Sweitzer, F. C. Reed, A. Hoover, E. S. Underwood, H. E. Conner, F. J. Baughman, O. D. Childs, K. O. Foltz.

The only ones of this number now living are F. C. Reed, retired from practice, and E. S. Underwood, still an active member of the visiting staff.

Dr. W. C. Jacobs was always a dominating personality in City Hospital affairs and was chief of staff from 1892 until the time of his death in 1905. He was followed by his son, Dr. H. H. Jacobs, who served for over 10 years. After his time of service the staff has elected its chief annually, each man serving one year.

Superintendents who have held office: Miss Rachel C. Sims, 1892-1893; Mrs. Mary H. Wheeler, 1893-1895; Miss Marie A. Lawson, 1895-1919; Mr. Henry G. Yearick, 1919-1922; Mr. Arden G. Hardgrove, 1922-to date.

One marked advance of recent date was the establishment of an out patient department now consisting of 10 free clinics for the care of charity patients.

Children's Hospital

The Children's Hospital, of today, is an outgrowth of the "Akron Day Nursery," established by the "Heart and Hand" and "Wayside" circles of the order of King's Daughters, October 18, 1890. The charter members, as their names appear on the roll, were: Mary Perkins Raymond, Anna Ganter, Carita McEbright, Bessie Raymond, Zelle Adams, Gertrude Commins, Addie Commins, Julia Crouse, Mary Crouse, Rose Day Christy, Belle Green, Helen Humphrey, Maud Watters, Mary Buell, Lizzie Griffin, Martha

Henry, Julia MacGregor, Mary Miller, Helen Storer, Harriet Wise and Alice Work.

First quarters were in the house occupied by the Union Charity Association on South High Street, present site of the Y. W. C. A. The young women cared for children sent in by mothers employed by the day.

In 1891 Colonel George T. Perkins gave a home to the organization on South High st., opposite the Court House, and the name was changed to the Mary Day Nursery in honor of Colonel Perkins' first granddaughter, Mary Perkins Raymond, now Mrs. William H. Yule, in whose name this gift was presented.

The name of the organization was again changed in 1905 to the "Mary Day Nursery and Ward for Crippled Children" and that marked the beginning of hospital work for children in Akron. The first medical staff consisted of Dr. J. P. Boyd, Dr. T. K. Moore and Dr. W. S. Chase. The surgeons were Dr. H. H. Jacobs, Dr. J. W. Rabe and Dr. Geo. T. Rankin.

The first officers were: President, Mrs. George R. Hill; Vice President, Miss Carita McEbright; Secretary, Miss May Latham; Treasurer, Mrs. Harvey Musser. Quarters had been moved to the present site, corner South High st. and Buchtel av., another gift from Colonel Perkins. The first report shows that 35 patients were cared for from October 28, 1905 to June 1, 1907.

The next step forward was another change in name with a corresponding enlargement of hospital facilities, on December 2, 1910, when the "Mary Day Nursery and Children's Hospital" was incorporated, the new hospital buildings on the old site, being once more the gift of Colonel Perkins, who also left to the hospital on his death that year, the sum of $50,000. In addition to the gifts made by Colonel Perkins, Mrs.

Perkins, in 1915, built a nurses' home adjoining the hospital at a cost of $15,000.

The first Chief of Staff elected was Dr. W. S. Chase, who served until 1919 when he resigned. He was followed by Dr. W. A. Hoyt who served from 1919 to 1923, being succeeded by Dr. E. A. Weeks for the year 1924, and Dr. S. Morgenroth in 1925.

Miss Rose Steinmetz was superintendent of the hospital for eight years and from the time she resigned in 1918 there was no permanent superintendent until 1920 when A. O. Bauss, the present incumbent, was chosen.

While the capacity of the hospital is now 65 patients the daily patient average during the year 1924 was 64. The number of patients admitted in 1924 was 1,478 and the patient days amounted to 18,056. During the same year the dispensary clinics showed a total of 6,409 visits.

People's Hospital

The campaign by which funds were raised for the People's Hospital, launched in April, 1914, was the first of its kind ever held in Akron and stirred up city-wide interest. This hospital project was conceived and started by Akron doctors. The original stockholders were: H. S. Davidson, C. T. Hill, W. W. Leonard, W. S. Chase, A. F. Sippy, George M. Logan, H. H. Jacobs, C. E. Smith, C. E. Norris, E. W. Barton, H. I. Cozad, William Wilson, D. H. Morgan, J. E. Allport, F. O. Dunderman, E. S. Underwood, C. E. Held, S. E. McMaster, R. H. McKay, S. Morgenroth, T. W. Hollingsworth, M. D. Stevenson and R. C. Kendig.

Approximately $150,000 was subscribed in ten days. The men's teams were directed by the late Dr. M. D. Stevenson and the women by Mrs. H. H. Jacobs.

A site was purchased on West Cedar st., in June, 1914, and construction was begun in August. The completed building, with capacity for 125 patients, was opened March 1, 1915, with Miss Emma Donnenwirth as superintendent. The executive officers were: Dr. W. S. Chase, president and Chief of Staff; Dr. A. F. Sippy, Vice President; Dr. C. T. Hill, Treasurer, with Dr. H. H. Jacobs, Dr. H. S. Davidson and Mr. F. E. Holcomb as remaining members of the executive board.

The first board of directors consisted of: C. T. Hill, W. A. Searl, M. D. Stevenson, H. S. Firestone, William Wilson, C. E. Held, D. C. Rybolt, M. A. Flynn, F. H. Mason, C. E. Norris, R. H. McKay, George P. Atwater, R. C. Kendig, E. W. Barton, F. A. Seiberling, A. Polsky, F. W. Albrecht, Crannel Morgan, R. A. Dowed, H. A. Galt, Guy E. Norwood, W. W. Leonard, H. H. Jacobs, W. S. Chase, A. F. Sippy, George M. Logan, D. H. Morgan, H. S. Davidson, F. E. Holcomb.

In 1918 Mr. Francis Seiberling became president and still holds that office. In the same year Dr. J. D. Smith was made Chief of Staff and continued until 1924 when Dr. J. G. Blower was elected. He was followed by Dr. R. H. McKay in 1925. Mr. W. H. Reed has been superintendent since 1919.

A maternity hospital was erected adjoining the main hospital building, and opened for use in December, 1924—thus giving the People's Hospital a total of 180 beds. The maternity unit cost $200,000, subscribed by the people of Akron in the joint hospital campaign of 1916 and held in the treasury until the hospital authorities felt the time was ripe to expand. In 1924 People's Hospital admitted 3,146 patients and reported 36,078 patient days.

As illustrating the remarkable growth of hospitalization in Akron it is interesting to compare the year 1893 when 143 patients received hospital treatment, with the record of 1924, showing 9,465 patients admitted to Akron hospitals.

Newspapers, Publishers and Printers

By James A. Braden

A FEW books—the Bible, Pilgrim's Progress, possibly Plutarch's Lives—but always a Bible—were among the scant treasures of the better class of pioneer cabins. At rare intervals eastern journals were brought by newcomers or travelers. They were greatly prized. By 1825, however, newspapers were not uncommon in northern Ohio. Copies of the Western Reserve Chronicle came regularly to Middlebury. This paper, now the Tribune-Chronicle, of Warren, founded there in 1812, was the first published in the territory of its early name. From Cleveland came the Herald, founded 1819.

The commanding place of printer's ink is no matter of modern discovery; and even before the birth of Akron, the canal to which the town was to owe its origin, became the inspiration of the first newspaper within the present city. The proposed "ditch" was of vital interest to Middlebury. Lauren Dewey, journeyman printer of Ravenna, looking into the situation, saw opportunity. He proposed to establish a newspaper to be known as the Ohio Canal Advocate. He added the proviso that Middlebury citizens aid in financing the project, naively stating in his proposition inviting subscriptions, that sums contributed were to be repaid "whenever the editor shall consider himself able to do so."

Thirty-six signatories to the proposition produced a potential capital of $204. A second hand Ramage press and types were purchased in Cleveland and brought overland by wagon. Whether there was delay in the

payment of subscriptions, as has been known to happen in newspaper affairs, or whether the purchase and transportation of equipment required a greater time than anticipated, is not apparent, but the canal question was affirmatively and satisfactorily settled before its still unborn Advocate made its appearance; with the consequence that, upon its arrival, the infant was christened The Portage Journal. The first number was issued Sept. 28, 1825.

Eighteen twenty-five—about tavern firesides and bars and wherever men met the Monroe Doctrine was still discussed. John Quincy Adams was the recently inaugurated president. Times were generally good and people generally contented. But the change that was to make Andrew Jackson the next president was in the making. The masses and the new west were to exercise a weighty voice in matters political. Sensing this trend, it is quite probable that, as they discussed policies of the new paper, Ozias Bowen, lately arrived from Massachusetts, and Elijah Mason, who had succeeded to Dewey's enterprise, either disregarded it or were themselves of "aristocratic" tendencies. Their paper became nominally independent, actually anti-Jackson. This may or may not have contributed to the end which came, after a change or two of ownership, in 1829, the year following Jackson's election. The ante-mortem announcement appeared in January. The wintry wind sang a mournful requiem. Chill gusts swept down on candle-lighted Middlebury and played about the big chimney of the Chittenden Hotel where, about the fire-place, undoubtedly, some few of the villagers discussed the merits and demerits of the departed.

Within the limits of this chapter only an incomplete summary of the numerous journalistic undertakings in the course of one hundred years, and in a com-

munity of more than an average intellectuality, may be attempted. It was, moreover, a century of achievement and changes extraordinary in the entire printing and publishing business.

Eighteen twenty-five—Richard Hoe, who was to give to the world a rotary press, operated by mechanical power, was still but a boy. Machine composition of type was still a half-century into the future. England had but a few years earlier ceased imposing a tax on advertisements. A few fonts of type, a stick, a bit of ink and paper and a Ramage or older press—Presses were all of the screw type until Rust's Washington hand press appeared in 1829—were sufficient for the publication of a newspaper.

Yet it would appear that the early journals were very good, it has been remarked—they so generally died young. Nor is an irreverent levity intended. The newspapers of the 1825-50 period and earlier were, as a rule, journalistic rather than commercial enterprises. Save in large cities the editor was his own business manager and often his own reporter, printer and pressman. He naturally wished to make his paper and his labor profitable but the lines he cultivated were not nearly so often aggressive business methods as they were the production of editorials. He thought less of what the people wanted than of what he believed they ought to have. But a great change was in the making—the decline of that class of semi-literary journals chiefly concerned with government, which were the outgrowth of early, purely political sheets, and the birth and rise of great news-disseminating publications, such as the elder Bennett sponsored in the New York Herald. Send Stanley to explore Africa? Certainly. Only a bit of newspaper enterprise—and undying fame for a one-time penniless waif—

and a knowledge of the interior of the dark continent exceeding all previously in the store of science.

Even so, the newspaper which was largely the reflection of a single brilliant mind, often the voice of an individual, remained more considerably a jounalistic institution of controversial and literary flavor than an enterprise for the speedy collection and transmission of news and the creation thereby of a superior vehicle for the prompt and profitable conveyance of advertisements. Time was to come when the means of rapid communication and rapid and costly news-gathering from all the great cross-roads of earth, expensive equipment and a changed public were to give the business office of every considerable journal a commanding place—when newspapers were to be a public utility and newspaper publishing scarcely less a merchandising business than the conduct of a department store—scarcely less a manufacturing business than the building of automobiles or tires for them, the halo of journalistic glory somewhat dimmed, editorial individuality diminished, but the power of the press greatly augmented by the speed and the far-reaching audibility of its many times multiplied voice.

In Akron the great changes in newspapers and newspaper publishing went on as elsewhere. Following the Portage Journal there was no paper in this field until the incorporation of Akron as a village in 1836. Madison H. White, in that year, established the Akron Post. The measure of its life was eight months. Constant Bryan (father of Major F. C. Bryan) followed with the Akron Journal, which lived six months. The panic of 1837 had come on and in few places was it more severely felt than in Akron; but in August of that year, Horace K. Smith and Gideon G. Galloway started

the American Balance. Hiram Bowen, nephew of Ozias Bowen of the earlier Portage Journal, acquired Galloway's interest a few months later. Through varying vicissitudes, involving temporary suspension and other difficulties, this paper ultimately became the present day Beacon-Journal.

It would seem almost more than a coincidence of chance that in Lane's most valuable "Fifty Years and Over of Akron and Summit County" the chapter on newspapers is immediately followed by that entitled "Akron's Burial Places." For many Akron ventures on journalistic seas were soon submerged. Others topped the waves gallantly for a considerable period; but changing political and economic conditions, stove worthy hulls and lack of capital and faulty business methods dragged yet others to the bottom.

S. A. Lane, painter, printer, editor, sheriff, historian, did much to give the Summit Beacon which, founded by Hiram Bowen in 1839, succeeded the American Balance, a place of some security. More local news was his formula. This was in Civil War times. At about this period the first power press was used in Akron, and was probably incident to the Beacon's growth to a circulation of 2500.

Meanwhile, in 1842, Horace Canfield (1803-1853) had started the American Democrat. Akron had become a county seat. There was now to be had official printing—the salvation of many a struggling journal, the sole excuse for some; and legitimately so in either case. Benjamin Franklin received more money for such work than for "Poor Richard."

Mr. Canfield was a thorough printer of the Franklin school. He founded the Ohio Review in Cuyahoga Falls in 1833. His other ventures included, besides the American Democrat, The Akron Free Democrat, 1849, edited by Sidney Edgerton. A son, Horace

G. Canfield, (1831-1920) spent a long life-time in the printing business in Akron, founding among other ventures, The Akron Daily Argus (1874). This paper was afterward published by Elder John F. Rowe and again by Carson Lake, who later became a widely known writer.

Under one name and another, the original Canfield's Democratic paper appeared and disappeared a number of times. As The Standard, H. P. Abel, proprietor, a small daily was attempted in 1855. Failure of the project buried both this and the weekly which mothered it; but this was the first daily paper in Akron, and most probably the first on the Western Reserve, outside of Cleveland.

In 1867 J. C. Loveland started the Akron City Times, a Democratic weekly. The Civil War was recently over. Northern Republican journals and stump speakers were very prone to "wave the bloody shirt." Newspapers were bitterly partisan. Editorial indiscretions caused Mr. Loveland to retire, but the City Times went on. In the course of changes in the proprietor and editorship appear such well known names as S. L. and Don Everett, Richard H. and Clarence Knight, Edwin Myers, W. B. Tanneyhill, O. D. Capron, M. J. Gilbo, J. M. H. Frederick, Melville Wright, and Fred G. Frease.

J. L. Patterson and Wm. E. Young (afterward mayor) then about to finish college at Ann Arbor, acquired an interest in the City Times early in 1892 and planned to launch somewhat later a Democratic daily. At about the same time Wm. B. and Russell T. Dobson, who had been publishing a newspaper in Bowling Green, O., proposed to put a daily in the Akron field. Wm. T. Sawyer, young lawyer and chairman of the Democratic county committee, was interested. The name of being rough play-fellows in the game of poli-

tics had been gained by the Dobson brothers elsewhere, and the fact was mentioned in letters which came to Mr. Sawyer. Other communications accompanying his investigations were more favorable, with the result that Messrs. Dobson were invited to come on. They organized The Akron Democrat Company to publish a new daily. This paper and the City Times were a few months later consolidated. Strong-arm methods of the Dobsons considerably upset the established order of things. The unheard of circumstance of every Democratic candidate on the Summit county ticket being elected to office came in the fall of that year. This was to be attributed in part to the nation-wide avalanche by which Cleveland succeeded Harrison as president, but Democratic pluralities for the county candidates ran substantially ahead of those for the national ticket. The Dobson slogan, "Turn The Rascals Out," received its share of Democratic commendation. Wm. T. Dobson later became Akron's postmaster. Summit county has since been only "nominally Republican." The independent voter has grown in numbers. The impregnability of the party has never returned.

In various ways the new Democratic daily considerably jarred the conservative element of conservative Akron. Men might smile to see the complacency of long established political leaderships upset, but continued club swinging produced other reactions. In the main the unbleached and hobnail methods, which often characterized the paper, gained for it no great circulation or profit. In 1897 the business was sold to Edward S. Harter, city editor, and Fred Gayer, a reporter for the paper, financed by themselves, a few business men and non-violent Democrats. The paper fared better under the more complaisant editorial policy now inaugurated but hostilities between the Democrat and

Beacon and Republican were not lacking. A libel suit brought by W. B. Baldwin, editor of the latter paper, was one consequence of this. The case was later settled. In 1901 Judge C. R. Grant acquired the Gayer interest in the paper and became a frequent editorial contributor. The paper did valiant service in open warfare with the "I. W. W." in the "I. W. W." invasion of the rubber industry in 1913.

In 1916 W. Kee Maxwell and Ross F. Walker, newspaper men of Peoria, Ill., took control of the paper, whose name had been earlier changed back to The Times, as carried at the mast-head by its early progenitor, save for the prefix "City." The Sunday Times was established in January, 1918, under editorship of L. L. Poe.

Returning to the Summit Beacon it is of interest to note that Lauren Dewey, projector of the early Middlebury paper, was a half owner of this property in 1845. A year later he became warden of the Ohio penitentiary. The Daily Beacon was established in 1869. S. A. Lane was editor and Thomas C. Raynolds came from the Detroit Post as his assistant. Later Wilson M. Day, now living in Cleveland, was editorially connected here.

In 1872 the entire printing plant, then including also an extensive job office and bindery, was destroyed by fire. The loss was practically total. The paper continued, but financial difficulties, multiplied by the panic of '72, resulted in the property being taken over by Thomas C. Raynolds, John H. Auble and Frank J. Staral, the whole consideration being their assumption of the liabilities. Subsequently Mr. Raynolds acquired control. The Staral interest, if not more, passed to George W. Crouse. The consideration, it is said, was $30,000, giving Mr. Staral the distinction of being the one man who made any considerable sum

in the newspaper business in Akron, prior to recent years. Mr. Crouse (1832-1912) former county auditor and treasurer, and at the time president of Aultman, Miller & Company, was one of Akron's richest men, widely known and liked. He erected for the Beacon plant (1888-9) the structure now known as the Central Office Building, at Main and Mill sts. At about this time, also, Mr. Crouse was elected to Congress.

In the same year, 1889, Col. A. L. Conger, 1838-1899) then president of the Whitman & Barnes Manufacturing Company, former county treasurer and long active in Republican state and national politics, entered the Akron newspaper field. It was said that the colonel had gubernatorial aspirations. "Irving Lawn," the stone mansion still topping Ash st. hill, completed and occupied by the Congers in 1890, was destined to be, some said, the residence of a future Chief Executive of Ohio. This appeared not improbable. In any case, the illusion was at the time prevalent that a personal "organ" of such musical qualities as might possibly be infused into a newspaper, must contribute greatly, if it were not, indeed, necessary, to political fortunes. Colonel Conger became responsible for the Akron Daily and Sunday Republican. This paper succeeded the Sunday Gazette and Daily Telegram. The former was founded in 1878 by Paul E. Werner and Carl F. Kolbe, the latter being better remembered as a professorial pillar of Buchtel College and the father of a future president of Akron University. Fred C. and Isaac Jennings Bryan were subsequent owners of the Gazette. Frank S. Pixley, later famous and rich as author of the libretto of "The Prince of Pilsen," bought and consolidated the Gazette with the City-Times, with which business he was iden-

tified. Shortly afterward the Times office started the Daily Telegram.

The Conger interests named their acquisitions the Sunday Republican and the Daily Republican, respectively. Ed. S. Wright was editor. So, for nearly two years Akron had two dailies of like political faith. The Beacon had never been a considerable money-maker. The Republican made less. Broadly, business the country over was at low ebb and much disturbed by politics. Tariff was the great bugaboo and political issue. But, though Major McKinley—afterward president—and others championed "our infant industries," Colonel Conger and "Senator" Crouse were obliged to do the financial championing of the Beacon in the one case, the Republican in the other.

The trouble was not so much that costs were high, as that receipts were meagre. The average reporter received from six to ten dollars a week. Dr. W. S. Chase was a reporter for and later city editor of the Republican, at some such figure. Willis W. Thornton was drawing six or eight dollars a week from the Beacon when told that the paper would have to do without him and that, all things considered, he might better find another pursuit in life. Among other reporters of the time were Ben F. Clark, Karl Kendig, A. W. Maynes, and L. W. Strayer. Charles Nelan, afterward a famous cartoonist, was at this time making sketches which he offered the Akron newspapers gratis.

Wages in mechanical and business departments of the papers were on a par with general rates but were certainly not high. All type was set by hand—twenty five or thirty cents per thousand ems. A fast compositor could set a thousand an hour, but must "throw in" on his own time. A first-class pressman was paid about $15 per week. A bookkeeper could be had for

eight. Cub-reporter-office-boys, a combination of rare possibilities for all parties, and of whom the writer was one, (on the Canton Repository) were a drug on the market at three dollars a week.

These were among the last days of that picturesque figure, the tramp printer. The linotype was his "Don't park here." Usually he alighted from a freight train. He went directly to the composing room of the nearest newspaper. Sometimes there was extra work for him. More usually he produced a stick from his hip pocket and sat up at the case of a regular compositor who was willing to take a few hours or a day off. The office later cashed the tramp's "string"—proofs of type he had set, pasted in a continuous strip for measuring.

Tradition says that Walter E. Wellman, afterward famous as a metropolitan newspaper writer and for polar ventures by balloon, arrived in Akron and started work somewhat as above. Certain it is he worked at the case here and was colloquially known as "Slug 8"—indicative of the number by which his proofs were identified. Later (1881) in company with Frank Wellman, his brother, he established the Akron Daily News. This paper helped to elect David R. Paige, of Akron, (father of D. King Paige) to Congress. Subsequently the Wellmans sold the property but their offspring did not long survive. Walter E. Wellman was born in Mentor, O. One of his journalistic exploits was the locating of the landing place of Columbus on Watling Island.

Though worthy of note, the latter fact has nothing else to do with the period or scene of this history—particularly the years 1889-1890, during which The Beacon and the Republican were dividing local patronage. And, as has been indicated, there being none too much for one paper, to say nothing of two, there

were whisperings of a merger. The Republican crowd went courting with a two-column picture and a story of royal welcome as Mr. Crouse returned from an extended European trip. From a position emulating that of the late Mr. Barkis they advanced a step or two beyond the limits of that gentleman's taciturnity; and shrewd observers believed, when (Jan. 1, 1891), the Akron Daily Beacon and Republican appeared, that the colonel had fared rather better than the "senator" in the deal.

The Akron Printing and Publishing Company, the name of the merged properties, was under active direction of Kenyon B. Conger as vice president. Thomas C. Raynolds, chief of the Beacon editorially, for a score of years, was general manager. He was of vigorous character and a forceful editor. His best managerial endeavors, however, failed to pull up the financial toboggan. The business had long shown a loss. In 1893, Herbert S. Saxton, of Canton, grandson of the founder of the Repository of that city, and then business manager of that paper, was engaged to get the business out of the mire of more outgo than income. He became general manager with Oliver S. Hart, former cashier, as assistant. Raynolds and F. C. Whittier, Beacon superintendent, became publishers of the Wooster, O., Republican. The Beacon shake-up extended to the release of Elmer E. Paine, editor, who was succeeded by Charles H. Wright (deceased) a native of Tallmadge who had won newspaper spurs in the west. Wright released the entire staff of reporters—Edward T. Conkle, afterward with the Cleveland Press; Elmer C. Dover, afterward secretary to M. A. Hanna and assistant United States treasurer; and Harry Taylor, later publisher of the Portsmouth, O., Times. Wm. B. Baldwin, afterward postmaster of Akron, now publisher of the Medina

Gazette, was retained as city editor. A new reportorial staff was put to work under stiff discipline. The full afternoon report of the Associated Press was taken on—the first big wire service to be used in Akron. James F. Donovan was the first A. P. operator.

Business increased in the Saxton administration but the balance was still in red. The panic of 1893 and lean years had come. Both Mr. Crouse and Col. Conger had many business irons in the fire. In reducing their lines the newspaper plant was not forgotten. In 1896 the large job printing division was sold to the Akron Printing Company which O. D. Capron and George L. Curtice were assisted in organizing as an extension of their own job business. And here it may be observed, as a commentary on the uncertainties of the printing business in particular, that at a later date Mr. Crouse gave away all his stock in The Akron Printing Company, because of potential liabilities of ownership.

With the sale of the job division, H. S. Saxton was succeeded by O. S. Hart as manager. Baldwin succeeded Wright as editor. Later in the same year, 1896, came the birth of the Evening Journal, in charge of Charles H. Wright. Paul E. Werner was the chief financial power back of Wright's project. The Journal started with fine, new equipment, including two linotypes—the first in Akron. Now again the local Republican party had two papers; but not for long. In 1897 there came another merger. The prestige of age and honored name placed the Beacon first in the name Beacon-Journal, but the Journal crowd was in complete charge. W. B. Baldwin, late editor of the Beacon and Republican, now (1897) started the Akron Sunday World. Later James A. Braden and then Thomas C. Raynolds published this paper, Raynolds changing the name to The Star. It endured for about

three years. The ill health of Mr. Raynolds had much to do with its suspension. Long a forceful figure in Akron's civic life and in Ohio newspaper circles, Mr. Raynolds died Feb. 1, 1915, at his home in this city. For a number of years paralysis had rendered him practically helpless, but his mental vigor was unimpaired. A surviving son is Will Raynolds, city editor of The Cleveland Plain Dealer.

In 1898 Russell T. Dobson bought control of the Beacon-Journal. W. B. Baldwin became editor of the paper. In 1903 ownership again changed when T. J. Kirkpatrick (later publisher of the Woman's Home Companion) and Charles L. Knight, experienced publishers of Springfield, O., acquired control. Knight took over Kirkpatrick's interest in 1915 and continues as publisher. W. B. Baldwin continued as editor until appointed postmaster, 1909. H. P. Boynton, Frank Spaulding, A. C. Pound and Hugh Allen were later editors of the paper. Under the initial, "Q," Allen's writings became a strong feature of the paper. John S. Knight is the present managing editor and J. H. Barry business manager. After leaving Akron, R. T. Dobson engaged in the newspaper business in Ann Arbor, Mich. Later, in a manufacturing business in that city, he amassed a substantial fortune.

During the years closing the last century another Akron paper was coming forward. A. I. Findlay, now editor of the Iron Trade Review, was an Akron young man when, in 1890, he became correspondent of the Cleveland Penny Press, one of the earliest one-cent newspapers. W. S. Chase and Willis W. Thornton soon afterward became the local representatives of the paper. Newsy, always on the street in advance of the Akron dailies, selling for one cent, against the Beacon's 3-cent price, its circulation climbed and Thornton interested advertisers. The "Akron Edi-

tion" became the Akron Press in 1898 and an Akron paper in fact when, in 1907, it was equipped with its own plant in this city.

While the Press was yet an "Akron Edition," about 1897, the typewriter was first used in this city for the pounding out of news copy. The machine was an old, double-key-board Caligraph. Kenneth J. Murdoch, afterward editor of the Los Angeles Record, operated it. Murdoch had succeeded W. S. Chase, in charge of the news end of The Press. The latter had given up newspaper work to become a doctor. W. W. Thornton was succeeded in the advertising and business management by Frank W. Hunsicker and Frank Tate. R. A. Huber was a later manager. Thornton became manager of the Cleveland Press and later manager of the entire Scripps chain of papers. John A. Botzum was editor when The Press became definitely an Akron paper. Later editors were Victor Morgan, Chas. E. Marsh, L. V. Martin and Mark L. Felber.

In March, 1925, the consolidation of the Akron Press and The Times, also the Sunday Times, brought the Times-Press into the field. L. E. Judd is editor and L. E. Herman business manager.

Akron's German paper, The Columbia, formerly the Germania, was founded in 1868 by H. Gentz. Paul E. Werner, who had come from Germany in 1867, and whose name was to become prominent in Akron's publishing history, purchased and became editor of the paper in 1874. Later The Germania Publishing Company was organized and Louis Seybold, Hans Otto Beck, Gustav Sigel, Carl Schoenduve, Julius Kroffke and other well known names appear in its history. The Columbia Printing Company, the present publishers, acquired the property in 1912. The paper is a tri-

weekly, Robert L. Soergel, editor, and A. C. Schuster, manager.

In 1846 The Tee-Total Mechanic, devoted to temperance, labor and a 10-hour day, was published in Akron. This was Akron's earliest "labor" journal. It was later removed to Cleveland. In after years, when organized labor had brought about the establishment of the Central Labor Union, composed of representatives of all "locals" of the city, the establishment of a journal to be largely in control of that body was undertaken. The paper, a weekly, first appeared in 1904, under the name of "The People." Representatives of the Typographical Union, which, it is believed, was the first Union organized in Akron, were in immediate charge but stock of the company was owned by the Central body, various locals and individuals. J. L. Cooper was an early, and perhaps the first, manager. Monte Beckwith was in charge of the paper for a number of years. In 1920 the name was changed to the Akron Herald and Harry Gilletly, of the Motion Picture Operators, took charge. The paper was suspended in 1922. In 1923 Herman Kuebler began publication of The Summit County Labor News. Phillip H. Curtis later acquired the property and continues as owner and publisher. The paper is the official organ of the Central Labor Union.

Most if not all the larger Akron Churches have their individual weekly or monthly Church papers. Serving the entire Akron Deanery of the Cleveland Catholic diocese is the Akron Catholic Record, weekly, established in 1919. It carries news of the Church in all the diocese but chiefly of Summit and Portage counties. Louis G. Wey is editor in chief and L. D. Gagen, director. Publisher, The Catholic Press Union, Inc.

Akron Topics, literary and social weekly, was

founded as The Woman's Forum in 1923 by the Woman's Forum company with Mrs. Grace Akers Curtiss in active charge. In 1924 Mrs. Ann Webb Karnaghan acquired control and changed the name of the paper as above. Mrs. Karnaghan remains as publisher. Kenneth Bradley is business manager and James M. Scott, editor.

Akron's considerable Hungarian population supports the "Akroni Magyar Hirlap"—the Akron Hungarian Journal, edited with the slogan "Magyar in language, American in Spirit." This weekly was established in 1911 and is the organ of the various Hungarian societies, including the Magyar Home on East Thornton st. Arpad Tarnoczy, editor and publisher, is a graduate of the University of Budapest. Wm. Hassenteufel, advertising manager, has been for 25 years in similar work in Akron.

Among general and particular periodicals published in Akron and which attained prominence in their time was the Ohio Educational Monthly which, under its earlier name, Ohio Journal of Education, was the organ of the Ohio State School Commissioner, an office long since abolished. In later years Dr. Samuel Findley, for many years superintendent of Akron's public schools, became owner and publisher. The magazine was America's oldest educational paper. The property was sold to O. T. Corson, Ohio School Commissioner, in 1905, and removed to Columbus.

The American Farm News, a monthly, at 25 cents a year, was started in Akron in 1888 by Aultman, Miller & Company and attained a large circulation. The paper was merged with the American Farmer and removed to Springfield, Ohio, 1892.

One of Akron's oldest activities in the publishing field is represented by the work of The Burch Directory Company. In 1868 the first directory of the city

was published. In the same year N. H. Burch established the directory business on a permanent basis. The Burch Directory Company was organized in 1890. Upon the death of Mr. Burch, in 1897, D. W. Bowman assumed control of the business. The Burch directory was first to introduce "wife's name" and the householders' street directory in directory publishing. This company produces the directories of Akron and nearly all cities in northeastern Ohio, excepting Cleveland.

Akron's prominence in rubber induced Theodore E. Smith, an eastern publisher, to bring to this city the publication of The India Rubber Review, founded in 1901. The Review soon grew to a position of recognized authority. In 1920, Edward S. Babcox, for many years in advertising and sales capacities in the rubber business, organized the India Rubber Review Company. The new owners enlarged the journal and in both size and contents it occupies a leading place in the class publication field. Edward S. Babcox is president and editor, R. C. Busbey, managing editor and W. C. Doerler, secretary.

The Art Appreciation Publishing Company of Akron occupies an interesting field in the publication of art works, chiefly reproductions of great paintings, which become aids to teachers and students in studies leading to a knowledge of art. Park E. Sumner is president and John C. Chapin treasurer of this organization.

Historical mention of The Saalfield Publishing Company, one of the largest publishing institutions of its kind, properly begins with reference to The Werner Printing & Lithographing Company, established by Paul E. Werner in 1875. The complete plant installed by the latter organization marked the first work in lithography in Akron, also the first electrotype foun-

dry and considerable wood-engraving business. This $500,000 corporation was a distinct addition to Akron's industries. In 1892 The R. S. Peale Book Publishing Company, of Chicago, was consolidated with the Werner Company, the combined companies being capitalized at $3,500,000. P. E. Werner was president and treasurer; George C. Berry, Jr., assistant treasurer, and Charles B. Denaple, superintendent. A very large business was carried on but serious financial difficulties arose in the panic of 1893 and subsequent depression. In 1899 the book publishing department was taken over by Arthur J. Saalfield, manager of that division, and continued thereafter by the company bearing his name. As makers of books for children, the Saalfield Company is most widely known, although its extensive production includes Bibles and many miscellaneous works. After the death of Mr. Saalfield in 1919, a son of Albert G. Saalfield succeeded to the management. E. R. Adam is vice president and treasurer, Arthur J. Saalfield, secretary, and Harry L. Knapp, assistant secretary of the present company.

Following receivership in the hands of R. P. Marvin in 1894, The Werner Printing & Lithographing Company was reorganized as The Werner Company. This company failed in 1909. Charles Paine, of Cleveland, was made receiver. In 1910 Paul E. Werner and associates bought the business and The New Werner Company was organized. In 1914 the lithographing division was sold to Edward P. Werner and Howard H. Wright, who had been long identified with the organization. They organized the Akron Lithographing Company. The name, The New Werner Company, was changed to The Superior Printing Company, by which the business is continued. J. A. Russell is president and general manager; E. L. Brooks, vice president; H. Stover, secretary and treasurer.

Soon after the organization of The Superior Printing Company, Paul E. Werner removed to Kansas City, Kas., where he organized The Rubber Manufacturing Corporation, of which he is president and general manager.

Looking back to the sale of the job printing division of the old Beacon and Republican, in 1896, is found the inception of the Commercial Printing Company. Sam F. Ziliox, Fred A. Lane (son of S. A. Lane), and John P. Brennan, all foremen of different departments of the works, improved the opportunity to launch out for themselves, and a business destined to become one of the largest in its field, was started under the above name in modest quarters in North Main st. In later years Ziliox took over the Brennan interest. Physical assets of the Akron Printing Company which failed in 1905, was reorganized as The Akron Printing & Paper Company and again failed in 1906, were purchased by The Commercial Company the latter year. In 1916 The Commercial Printing Company and The Akron Lithographing Company were combined as The Commercial Printing & Lithographing Company. The extensive plant on West Exchange st., built in 1911, was enlarged to accommodate this accession. Later an art department was added. Frank P. Allen, now in similar work in Louisville, Ky., was long prominently identified with the Commercial company. John P. Brennan, one of the founders of the original company, later established the business now known as the Brennan Loose Leaf Company. W. H. Saulsbury, Willis E. Young, H. W. O'Brien and A. T. Lewis of the Ben Franklin Printing Company, were all Commercial men, at one time. Present Commercial officers are: Sam F. Ziliox, president; Marvin M. Dice, treasurer and assistant manager;

Harry E. Votaw, secretary, and Edward P. Werner, superintendent.

From very early times Akron has known no dearth of printing houses. There are now fifty job printing establishments in the city, the smallest of them being far larger in point of capacity and equipment than the entire plant of a local newspaper at the date of Akron's beginning, and for many years thereafter.

Keeping pace with Akron's growth in graphic arts, engraving has been carried on continuously since the establishment of the original Werner Company in 1875. The present Akron Engraving Company is the outgrowth of the Case Engraving Company, established 1895. W. S. Stilwell and Neal Otteran took over the business as the S. & O. Engraving Company. Charles F. Ley, E. S. Kintz and James W. Meeker were afterward prominent in the organization. Mr. Kintz won more than local distinction with his birdseye drawings. In recent years the corporate name has been the Akron Engraving Company. O. W. Smith is president; H. A. Parker, vice president; E. E. Krumeich, secretary and treasurer; C. G. Rorich, general manager. The Portage Engraving Company is devoted chiefly to newspaper line plates.

The production of advertising material for Akron rubber companies and for other manufacturers here and elsewhere has contributed largely to the growth of the general printing business of the city. The quality of Akron workmanship is above the average.

Similarly, Akron newspapers have advanced with the city's growth. Akron training in newspaper work has been favorably recognized by many leading journals. Mention of some of the Akron-made reporters who have come to high places in newspaper work, in addition to names earlier introduced, would include Robert M. Collins, war correspondent and London

representative of the Associated Press; Elmer E. Paine, for a long time Washington representative of the Associated Press; Louis W. Strayer (deceased) Washington correspondent of the Pittsburgh Post; Ed. S. Wright (deceased), Washington correspondent of the Scripps League; Arthur C. Johnston, now editor of The Columbus Dispatch; Wm. T. Martin, now editor of The Pittsburgh Post; Carl D. Sheppard (now an Akron lawyer) Washington political writer and secretary to Hon. Charles Evan Hughes; Roy Ritchie, (deceased) editor of The Seattle Star; Arthur Ritchie, New York representative of the News Enterprise Association. It was another Akron-trained newspaper man, Charles A. Marvin (deceased) who as a special writer on the Cleveland Press, unearthed the Cassie Chadwick story which, with its numerous sequels, will be long remembered as one of the most extraordinary in Ohio newspaper annals. Following leads of the story to New York, Marvin scored repeated beats on the army of eastern reporters assigned to the case, and important New York developments he wired to his paper were wired back to the metropolitan press by its Ohio representatives and printed in New York a day later.

Buckeye and Empire Days

By Karl Kendig

AN INDUSTRIAL picture of Akron, transposed to a graphic chart, would show that from 1864 to 1905 the agricultural machinery and allied lines dominated. This field of manufacturing created the same nation-wide reputation for Akron during that period as does the rubber industry of today. Wherever soil was tilled and harvests reaped, mowers, binders, rakes, cultivators and cutting parts "made in Akron" circulated the trade names of "Buckeye," "Empire," "Excelsior," and "W & B," in this and foreign countries.

Capitalization of these industries in hundreds of thousands of dollars, created as much amazement or wonder financially, as do organizations of today with their millions of capital. From two to eight hundred was the average number employed, and they were known as "Buckeye men," "Empire men," "Whitman & Barnes men," and so on.

In 1886 the agricultural implement business was at its peak; the thrifty period when the plants were working night and day and labor fully employed. There was no Chamber of Commerce to exploit the advantages of industrial Akron, and various citizens and companies combined their efforts to broadcast the advantages of Akron through periodical publications.

C. A. Collins, Carriage Factory, J. F. Seiberling, president, "Empire" Works, D. L. King, president, The King Varnish Co., Louis Miller, "Buckeye" Works, C. F. Lamb, Whitman & Barnes Mfg. Co., O. C. Barber, Diamond Match Co., J. P. Alexander, Fire

Brick Works, and L. D. Watters, mayor of Akron, were a committee that collaborated with publishers who issued a book in 1886 entitled "The Industries of Akron, Ohio; Commercial and Manufacturing Advantages; Descriptive and Biographical Facts and Figures."

They had this to say regarding the agricultural implement industry: "There are seven establishments in Akron engaged in this line of industry, two of which are known throughout every section of the United States. The rapid growth of the industry of this city, however, is not surprising when we consider the superb advantages found here for such manufactures. There is no lack of raw material. The iron is abundant and close at hand. The woods used are at our doors in immense quantities. Steam power is exceedingly cheap—and skilled labor is also plentiful. It is in consequence of this rare combination of all the prime facilities, that Akron has become the chief manufacturing city of farming implements and farm labor-saving machinery in this section. Nor does the industry here thrive by simply making articles which 'Tom, Dick and Harry' have a perfect right to make, or the articles for which the privilege of manufacturing is purchased from parties abroad. Its success comes very largely from the inventive genius that is interested directly in the Akron manufactures. The inventions in this line, upon which patents have been granted to Akron makers, are innumerable, and deservedly rank among the most valuable now made subservient to the wants of the agriculturists in this country or any section of the world. And that they are appreciated is fully demonstrated by the fact that the highest awards of merit have been bestowed upon them."

The first reference to the manufacturing of an ag-

ricultural implement was in 1825 when Dr. Eliakin Crosby purchased a defunct furnace operated on the site now occupied by the general office of The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. In a crude way he manufactured plows, hoes and other agricultural implements for a period of two years, when the business being found unprofitable, he sold the property.

A lapse of thirty-five years followed before the inception and creation of those agricultural implement works which were to become the foundation of Akron's industrial reputation. Two prominent companies were organized and started operations within a year of each other.

THE BUCKEYE REAPER & MOWER WORKS.—This was an outgrowth of the C. Aultman & Co., of Canton, Ohio, and was established in Akron in 1864, but under the separate and distinct corporation title of Aultman, Miller & Co., with Hon. George W. Crouse as president, Hon. Lewis Miller, general superintendent, Ira Miller, secretary, and R. H. Wright, treasurer. Mr. Ira Miller is today the only surviving member of that official group.

Among other men, in their day, prominently identified with the upbuilding and progress of this company, were: J. Asa Palmer, Josiah Hartzell, Neri Newcomb, W. A. Means, S. S. Miller, Maurice Snyder, Asa Hanscom, J. D. Palmer, John Grad, E. R. Harper, O. L. Sadler, Ralph P. Burnett, W. K. Means, J. P. Frisby, H. H. Crowther, R. B. Walker, John Shafer, N. N. Lerhner, S. P. Wallace, C. O. Baughman, Tom Marshall, Al. Young, Wallace Carlton, A. D. Power, Dan Cameron.

The Buckeye factory, now the Akron branch of the International Harvester Co., was located east of the old C. A. & C. railroad, in the block between Center st. and Buchtel av. An average of 800 men were em-

ployed during its existence and the products—self-binders, harvesters, self rakes, droppers and mowing machines—were marketed in this and foreign countries. It continued to do a prosperous business until 1902 when the International Harvester Co. was organized. Competition in the agricultural implement line became very keen to the advantage of the larger organization. In 1905 a receiver was appointed for the "Buckeye" Company and its entire assets were sold to the International Harvetser Co., which now manufactures International Motor Trucks in Akron.

EMPIRE REAPER & MOWER WORKS.—In 1865 J. F. Seiberling organized the J. F. Seiberling Co., and built his factory opposite the old Union Depot, west of the C. A. & C. railroad, and north of Center st., and the "Buckeye" works. The office building faced Mill st. on the site now occupied by the Fred Albrecht Grocery Co.

Mr. Seiberling was an inventive genius. The "Empire" Mower and Reaper with dropper attachment, was invented by him in 1858 and first manufactured at Doylestown in 1861, under the name of "Excelsior." In 1864 he began their manufacture in Massillon, but in 1865 brought the industry to Akron. Associated with him in the successful conduct of this business were his two sons, F. A. Seiberling, secretary and treasurer, and Chas. W. Seiberling, superintendent.

Father and sons conducted the business until 1900 when the general depression of the implement business brought reverses. An assignee was appointed and the business liquidated just four years prior to the similar fate of the "Buckeye" Company.

Identified with the progressive up-building and activities of this company, is brought to mind the name of W. H. Carter, who was with the old Ex-

celsior Mower and Reaper works in 1868 to 1874, afterward with J. F. Seiberling & Co., until 1895. E. R. Harper was with J. F. Seiberling & Co., 1883-4; afterward he became mayor of Akron, and later, lieutenant governor of Colorado. J. S. Benner, W. G. Wise and Horace Houser were three men well known in this organization.

Prominent among the factory personnel were John Rawlings, John Heffelman, Jacob Carpenter, H. K. Austin, Jonas Nice, and Wm. Eardley. L. K. Miles, originally connected with the Whitman & Miles Mfg. Co., was general sales agent. Howard Sears, a young attorney, was in charge of collections, and later became a city commissioner. He was succeeded by J. A. Bradley, afterward a member of the law firm of Rogers, Rowley & Bradley. Prominent here, also, was Wm. Carter, who became identified with the J. F. Seiberling Co. about 1880, and was with the company during its entire life as an expert accountant. Wm. Eardley is another surviving member of the original force.

AKRON KNIFE WORKS.—In 1848 the predecessors and founders of the present corporation, The Whitman & Barnes Mfg. Co., commenced in a very small way to make knives and sickles for mowing and reaping machines at Fitchburg, Mass. The manufacture of mowers and reapers was at that time in its infancy and the knives and sickles then used were crude and imperfect. In co-operation with the original McCormicks, satisfactory knives were produced for the first McCormick mowers.

In 1854 a company was established by these founders of the original machine shop, under the name of the Whitman & Miles Mfg. Co. Gradually improvements were made in both branches of manufacture and the small knife works grew and furnished

their cutting products to all the manufacturers then in existence in the implement line.

As the production of mowers, binders and agricultural implements became a leading industry, the inducements were sufficiently attractive to establish a plant in Akron to supply knives, sickles, guard plates, sections, spring keys, etc., to the "Buckeye" and "Empire" works and the Deering and McCormick interests in Chicago. The shops were constructed east of the C. A. & C. railroad, on the site occupying the block between Buchtel av. and Carroll sts., south of the present International Harvester Co., under the corporate name of The Whitman & Miles Mfg. Co.

In September, 1877, the present Whitman & Barnes Mfg. Co. was incorporated and purchased the property and business of The Whitman & Miles Mfg. Co., at Akron, Ohio, and Fitchburg, Mass., and that of George Barnes & Co., of Syracuse, New York. The Fitchburg plant was closed and the business conducted at Akron, Ohio, and Syracuse, New York.

Augustus Whitman was president of the company from the incorporation in 1877 to 1879; George Barnes, 1879-1885; Col. A. L. Conger, 1885-1897; I. C. Alden, 1897-1899; Geo. E. Dana, 1899-1902; C. E. Sheldon, 1902-1915. These presidents presided over the affairs of The Whitman & Barnes Mfg. Co., during the period when the implement business was at its height.

In May, 1880, the company purchased the properties of Collinson, Burch & Co., of St. Catharines, Canada, and established the Canadian branch of The Whitman & Barnes Mfg. Co., at that point, where cutting parts were manufactured for the Canadian trade.

As the demand for cutting and kindred parts declined with the passing of the "Buckeye" and "Empire" works, and the market passed to the westward,

the company established other lines. In 1891 the Diamond Drill & Tool Co., a small concern operating at 226 S. Howard st., was purchased and the manufacture of twist drills and reamers was transferred to a section of the Akron plant. In May, 1893, the company began the building of a plant at Chicago, West Pullman, Illinois, for the purpose of manufacturing cutting parts for Deering, McCormick and other Western implement manufacturers. This line manufactured at Akron, was transferred to West Pullman, and the Akron plant was given over exclusively to the manufacture of twist drills and reamers.

Gradually the western implement manufacturers began to produce their own cutting parts and the line was supplanted at the West Pullman factory by the manufacture of drop forgings, wrenches, spring cotters, lawn mowers and haying tools. During the year 1902 the company sold its properties in Canada and West Pullman to J. H. Williams & Co., of New York, retaining the Akron, Ohio, plant, where twist drills and reamers are manufactured.

The Whitman & Barnes Mfg. Co. is the only surviving corporation of the group that was originally identified with the agricultural implement business at Akron, with its present production of twist drills and reamers, radically different from the original output of seventy-one years ago.

THE AKRON ROLLING MILL.—During the first flourishing years of the agricultural implement business, the "Buckeye" officials looked to the establishment of a rolling mill to furnish their steel requirements, and formed this company in 1866. The mills were built west of the Erie railroad tracks on the site now occupied by the Akron Selle Co., and the Erie yards. The president was Hon. Lewis Miller, Jeremiah A. Long, secretary and treasurer, Captain Aaron

P. Baldwin, general superintendent, and Edward B. Miller, assistant superintendent. It was re-organized in 1900 under the title of the Akron Iron & Steel Co. Stress of competition and the declining demand for its products, due to the falling off of the agricultural implement business, forced a liquidation and the winding up of the business.

In the active days of this corporation, a number of Akron men held prominent positions, among them: A. B. Rinehart, W. A. Pardee, J. G. Raymond, E. W. Hull, Harry Holloway, Frank Dodge, Fred Dodge and will McCarthy.

THE AKRON TWINE & CORDAGE CO.—In 1885 this company was organized and located at 110-116 Hill st., in close proximity to the "Buckeye." The line manufactured included all kinds of Manila and sisal twine and rope. The leading specialty was binder twine to supply the binders manufactured by the "Buckeye" and "Empire" companies. The officers were: President, Hon. Geo. W. Crouse, vice president, F. A. Seiberling, secretary and treasurer, Dr. A. M. Cole. The company, closely allied with the "Buckeye" was involved in its financial difficulties and passed to The International Harvester Company, who dismantled the plant.

THE AKRON CULTIVATOR CO.—This corporation was originally formed under the name of The Akron Tool Co., Sept. 21, 1899, and located its factory at 238 N. Union st. Hiram Kendal was president, Geo. W. Crouse, vice president, Horace M. Houser, secretary, and Chas. A. Bowen, treasurer and superintendent. In 1920 the business was sold to The Empire Plow Co., Cleveland, Ohio, and in this transaction the last of the agricultural implement manufacturing corporations connected with Akron's past history, ceased to exist, by removal to Cleveland.

Reference is made to the Akron Iron Co., the Akron Twine & Cordage Co., and the Akron Cultivator Co., as organizations closely allied to the agricultural implement manufacturing business. They were links in the chain, some of them supplying materials and accessories to round out the completed line.

The heart of Akron's industrial life was grouped in these industries in the territory adjoining the railroad between Mill and Iron sts. It was the artery of the industrial life, and the products receiving world-wide recognition for their merits, were the first mediums for spreading Akron's fame. These industries were neighbors and competitors, operating side by side, guided by a group of men of keen judgment and broad vision. Not only did they conduct their industrial affairs successfully, but they found time to participate in the municipal life of the community. They fostered and invested in infant industries, rubber and other lines, which have survived as monuments to them.

These pioneers have passed, likewise the evidences of their industrial building, but their descendants remain to carry on. The sons of the families, particularly the Seiberlings, F. A. and C. W., inheritors of their father's business acumen, conceived and builded The Goodyear Tire & Rubber and the Seiberling Rubber Companies.

Other industries had their inception and were organized by the descendants of these pioneers, so that in giving credit for the present day industrial Akron, the impetus can be traced to the energy of those early agricultural implement days.

But the decline! It was caused by business evolution with its changing conditions, the transfer of the bulk of the consuming trade for implements, to the growing agricultural West where the corporations of McCormick and Deering, operating from Chicago,

were able to serve and manufacture at lower costs. It was no discredit to those early Akron industrial founders that they could not survive all those uncontrollable conditions. Today there is not in existence a single independent agricultural implement manufacturing company of large proportions, east of Chicago where is located the head offices and factories of the International Harvester Company. In it is combined the best of all the old time companies. Financing the farmer on the installment payment plan was, no doubt, one of the main contributing factors leading to the financial reverses of these Akron implement manufacturers. A scientific financial set-up for handling partial payments of the rural buyers of implements, did not exist in their days. Had current methods of partial payment collections, as exampled in the sale of automobiles and other lines, been in existence in their time, the agricultural implement manufacturers would, no doubt, have survived. There was no Federal Reserve System with its support and control to stabilize the avenues of finance. The banks operating as separate units, unsupported, were subject to varying conditions of finance, both local and national. Their clients, like themselves, were victims of unstabilized conditions which made the financing of long time paper of the agricultural character, or farmers' notes, most precarious. When panicky years developed, loans were called. The agricultural implement manufacturer with his long time farmers' notes as collateral, (his chief quick assets), was caught in a financial disaster from which there was no relief under those existing conditions.

Akron's Schools

By Elizabeth A. Thompson and Susannah C. Cole

AKRON was considered a town from its platting in 1825, but became officially such, when, March 12, 1836, there was passed by the General Assembly, at Columbus, "An Act to incorporate the town of Akron in the county of Portage." There were, at that time, eleven school buildings in the township, two of which were in Akron, the oldest being a one-story frame building in the woods at the northeast corner of what is now Buchtel av. (then Middlebury) and Broadway. This was afterward replaced by a one-story stone building, still standing, which served for a long time as a place for holding public meetings, religious, political, and literary. The other schoolhouse was in "North Akron," on South High st. near where the Pythian Temple now stands.

The schools were conducted like country schools. Teachers were paid from public money as far as it would go, the rest being raised by a pro rata assessment on pupils attending. There were private schools, some elementary, others more advanced. A local paper contained the following announcement: "On Jan. 3, 1838, a select school will be opened at the corner of Middlebury and High sts., under the superintendence of Miss M. E. Hubble, of New York, where pupils will receive instruction in all branches usually taught in our eastern female seminaries. Tuition per quarter, $3 to $5, according to studies pursued."

Private schools were generally short-lived. In 1846 there were 690 pupils in Akron between four and sixteen years of age, but many did not attend any school. State funds were inadequate to pay teachers'

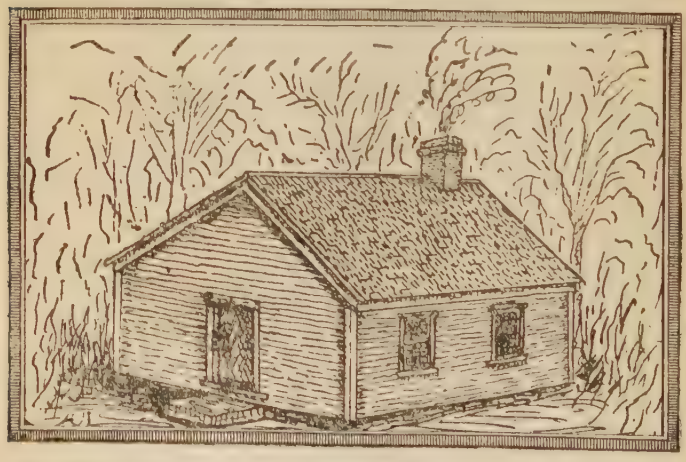
salaries, because the revenue arising from public lands donated by Congress were insufficient. The treasury of a school district sometimes contained not more than ten dollars for an entire year. Utter lack of system prevailed in the schools. Akron was no exception, the same conditions prevailing throughout Ohio.

It was because of this state of affairs that Rev. Isaac Jennings, pastor of the Congregational Church, on his own initiative, set himself to work to reorganize the schools of Akron. There were many ready to coöperate, for there was less illiteracy in the Western Reserve than in some sections of the state. In this community were a number who had received training in eastern colleges. May 16, 1846, a public meeting of Akron citizens was held, "to take into consideration our present educational provisions and the improvement, if any, which can be made therein." Mr. Jennings was made chairman of a committee appointed to work out a plan to be presented to the Legislature.

On Nov. 21, 1846, an adjourned meeting was held at Mechanics Hall, and a report was submitted. It provided for incorporating the whole town into one school district, for grading the schools into primary, and secondary, and later a high school, for free admission to all schools, for support of all by general taxation, and for the election of a school board having full supervision of school matters. A committee was appointed consisting of Rufus P. Spalding, Henry W. King, Harvey B. Spelman and Lucius V. Bierce to secure the necessary legislation. A wonderful group of men who, in later years, in public life, still further showed the stuff they were made of! The report was adopted by the Legislature, and embodied in "An Act for the support and better regulation of common schools in the town of Akron," and was passed Feb.

8, 1847. On Feb. 14, 1848, an amendment was adopted by the Legislature, providing that every incorporated town or city in this State shall have the provisions of the act called the "Akron Plan for the support and better regulation of the common schools in the town of Akron."

Mr. Jennings is justly called "the father and founder of Akron schools" and of the "Akron Plan for free graded schools" because it was largely his conception and was matured by his untiring efforts. Akron should feel proud of the distinction of being the birthplace of this educational system.



The First School House Stood at What is Now the Corner of Broadway and Buchtel av.

The new plan was promptly inaugurated in Akron and met with the approval of most citizens, but there were many who were strongly opposed to paying for the education of other people's children. To overcome this objection made throughout the state, school levies were so low that they bordered on parsimony,

and school-boards were greatly hampered in consequence.

The work of the first year in Akron was largely that of organization. Two school-houses were built at a cost of $370 each and a lot bounded by Summit, Mill, and Prospect sts. was purchased at a cost of $2137. On this lot was a dwelling which, for $613, was fitted up for a grammar school. For many years thereafter this corner was the site of Akron's foremost school. The school lot rose high above the street, practically on a level with the Prospect st. approach to the Mill st. viaduct. It was leveled for freight house uses.

M. D. Leggett was the first superintendent of Akron schools and principal of this early building, at a salary of $500. His two assistants received $200 and $150 respectively, and primary teachers $3.50 a week. Mr. Leggett was forced to withdraw the second year because of lack of compensation. In 1853 a two-story brick building was erected on the lot at a cost of nearly $10,000, and was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies, Oct. 13, 1853. It was named Jennings School. It contained two large rooms, with a recitation room attached to each. Mr. Samuel F. Cooper was put in charge and was assisted by Mrs. Cooper and Miss Voris. The entire pay-roll for that year was $2777.42, including that of the superintendent. In the following year J. Park Alexander was put in charge of the grammar school at the munificent salary of $35 a month.

The school report of April, 1857, contained the following concerning the qualifications of teachers: "The Board as a general rule have determined to employ no teachers in the Akron schools but those of ripe age, ample experience, successful tact, a fine education, and an ample fund of general knowledge. Be-

sides these, the teacher must have great goodness and kindness of heart, indomitable perseverance, good common sense, and last, but not least, the qualities, in a measure, of a successful military general." Certainly the Board was very modest in the list of required graces for such salaries!

In the first ten years of Akron schools, superintendence was nominal, as the time of the five superintendents employed within that period was used in teaching, with an occasional hurried visit to schools outside their own. The evils were apparent. In the eleventh annual report the Board declared: "The lowest wages' principle is not the best economy, and such compensation should be paid as will secure the best skill and economy." In 1860, Mr. Israel P. Hole was engaged at a salary of $900, which was finally increased to $1500. Great progress was made. The average attendance for all the schools was given as 91 per cent in the report for 1866, while that of 1864 was only 78 per cent.

In 1867-68 two wings were added to the high school building, each with two large rooms and a room adjoining. The report of 1864 mentions the first graduation from the high school. Miss Pamela Goodwin was the pupil who had that honor. In 1868 Mr. Hole resigned, declining re-election. With the beginning of 1868 a new era opened in the history of Akron schools.

Samuel Findley, a teacher with progressive ideas and ripe experience, was secured as superintendent at a salary of $2500. Mrs. N. A. Stone, a teacher of statewide reputation, became principal of the high school, and Miss E. A. Herdman, a teacher equally efficient, principal of the A grammar school. The course of study was thoroughly revised, conforming more with modern ideas, and was reduced in time from four years to three. Vocal music was added, being taught from 1872 to

1921 by Mr. N. L. Glover, a grand service of forty-nine years. His death accurred Sept. 1923.

Promotions were made semi-annually, instead of annually. Graduations from the high school also occurred semi-annually. The school day was shortened from six hours to five. Two literary societies were organized in 1868, the Academic for boys and the Philomathian for girls. In later years Miss Isabel Baird had charge of the former and Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson of the latter, both of whom are held in grateful remembrance. Mrs. N. A. Stone resigned from the high school after a service of five years, and was succeeded in 1878 by Miss Maria Parsons, who resigned after seven years for a period of rest and travel. Wilbur V. Rood then became principal of the high school and served for eighteen years, when he was overcome by sudden illness and answered the final summons.

In 1874 Miss Herdman resigned as principal of the A grammar school and died soon after. She was succeeded by Miss Josephine Newberry, a strong and faithful teacher.

When Dr. Findley became superintendent there were eleven primary schools, housed in eleven one-room buildings. Most of these were replaced by larger buildings accommodating grammar and primary grades. Two hundred eighty-nine pupils were graduated from the high school, as against fifteen in the previous administration. The attendance in the high school in six years, ending Jan. 25, 1875, had increased 234 per cent and in other grades 50 per cent. After fifteen years of continuous service, Supt. Findley declined a re-election. He was a born educator and gave his life to educational work. Akron owes much to him for the high rank of her schools. His death occurred in 1908.

Prof. Elias Fraunfelter, who since 1874, had held

the position of Prof. of Mathematics at Buchtel College, was the successor of Supt. Findley. No radical changes were introduced at first. A new high school building facing Union Park was erected, the entire cost being about $135,000. It was occupied Sept., 1886. It contained twelve school rooms, an assembly room, society rooms, offices, etc. Three new grade schools, Grace, Leggett and Bryan, were built. The course of study in the high school was restored to four years in response to the requirements of the Ohio College Association and Akron was then placed on the accredited list for admission to college.

Cooking and sewing were introduced for girls in grade schools and wood-craft for boys, but were given up after a time. Student teachers were employed, one for each building, to act in case of sickness of the regular teacher. The free text book plan was introduced, all pupils below the high school being included, at first, and, the plan proving successful, it was extended to include high school pupils. Supplementary reading matter was furnished to all grades from the primary through the high school to stimulate a love for good reading and to enrich the pupils' knowledge. A truant officer was appointed as the result of a state law requiring compulsory attendance. A normal training course of two years was established at Perkins School and included practice teaching under a critic teacher.

After serving fourteen years as an energetic and faithful superintendent, Supt. Fraunfelter was forced to retire because of failing health. His death occurred in 1898.

R. S. Thomas was called from the superintendency of Warren, O., schools to succeed Prof. Fraunfelter, and held the position three years. Night schools were established for the benefit of some high school pupils

and foreigners. In some buildings pupils between the ages of five and six years were admitted, and this gradually grew, in time, to the establishment of kindergartens.

Mr. H. V. Kotchkiss became Superintendent on the resignation of Mr. Thomas, and did progressive and efficient work for twenty years. The free school book and supply system was operated to an extent not duplicated by any other city. At a time of unprecedented growth in Akron, when houses were lacking, when people were crowding in daily, looking for work, and forced to live in tents, a seat was found in the schools for every child of school age.

Great care was exercised about the physical condition of the children, medical inspection was introduced, seats adjusted to the size of the child were used in the newer buildings, and athletic and physical training was carried out under plans developed by a competent director. Open-window rooms for underdeveloped and undernourished children were opened first at Bowen School and later at Mason and other schools. A special school for deaf children was also opened.

In music, instrumental lessons were given to those who wanted them; orchestra work was introduced; glee clubs were developed and encouraged. In art, practical work was developed from poster work in the lower grades through house planning, interior decoration, metal and leather work in high schools.

The development of the schools at this time is shown by the following:—

In 1900—one high school; 11 elementary schools; 150 teachers; 5000 children.

In 1920—four high schools; 26 elementary schools; 800 teachers; 33,000 children.

Carroll R. Reed was elected Superintendent of

Schools in 1920, served a three year term and was re-elected for five more years in 1923.

Under Mr. Reed's guidance the schools have progressed both in material equipment and in educational standards. Ten new school buildings and annexes have been built during his term so far; the Continuation School has been established for working boys and girls; the Teachers' College has been established as a part of the Municipal University, enabling Akron teachers to secure college credits while in service; a workable and up-to-date census system has been installed giving us the facts concerning the children of Akron; the Attendance department has been enlarged and improved; an adequate salary schedule has been established and maintained to attract good teachers to Akron and to hold the best of teaching talent in our system; special classes have been established for subnormal children, crippled children, and children who are in danger of becoming blind; the high school courses of study have been revised, offering differentiated courses, preparing for college and for life; a thorough program of physical education has been installed in the schools; seventeen platoon schools have been organized where children receive a rich educational opportunity; and part-time attendance has been eliminated above the first grade.

Americanization

The history of Americanization in Akron begins and ends with the story of men and women to whom "nothing of humanity is alien" and who have exercised their American Idealism in positive service to make our whole city a better place for men and women and little children to live. Such persons as Philip Treash, E. D. Fritch, and L. D. Slusser were pioneer night school teachers at Central High School as early as 1900. Some foreign-born people attended these classes.

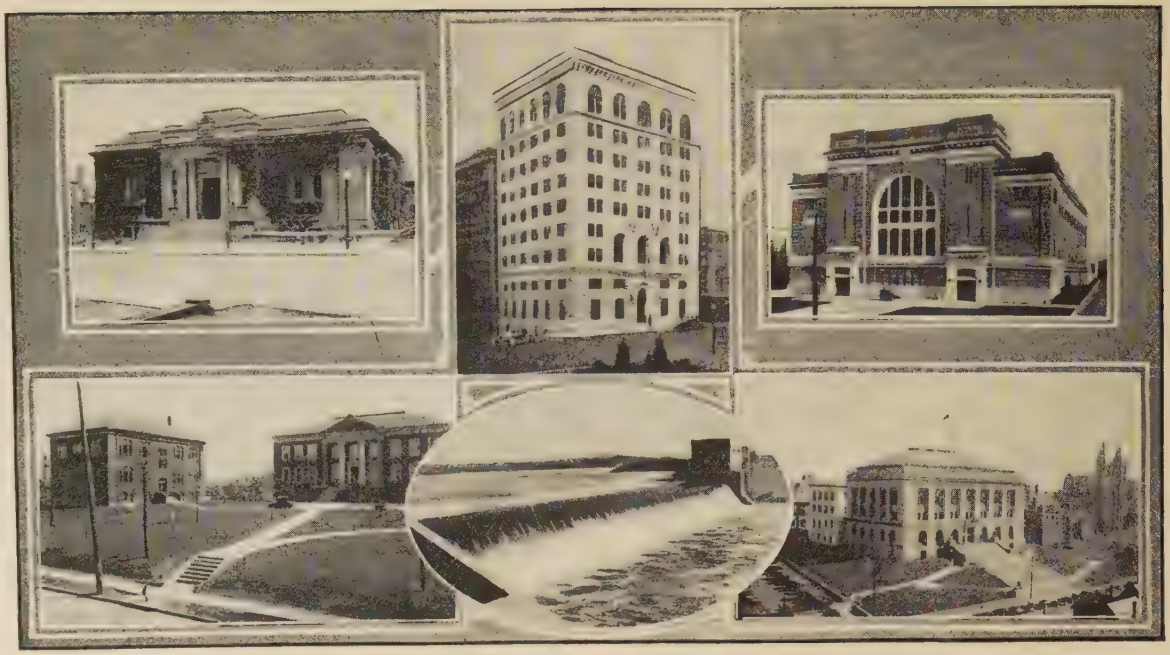
North High
East High

Jennings School (1853-1895)
Central High

South High
West High

Main Street looking north from Howard and Main, 1925

Main Street looking south from Howard and Main, 1925



The Public Library
University Buildings

New City Hall
Water Works Dam

The Armory
The Courthouse

North Hill Viaduct, opened October, 1923

High Level Bridge, North Howard st. extension, opened September, 1915

After a few years this work was discontinued by the Board of Education. Professor O. E. Olin, sensing a need for work with the non-English speaking people of the city, organized in 1911 the first community Americanization class in a room over a saloon on Furnace st., and taught the class himself. Associated closely with him in this early development were Dr. E. B. Foltz, Mr. F. A. Seiberling, Mr. J. Q. Ames, and Mr. John Huntoon.

In 1913 Mr. F. A. Seiberling bought the old Jewish Synagogue, which stood where the Elks' Club now stands, and gave it to the Akron Settlement House Association, through which much of the early Americanization Service was carried on. In the spring of 1913 a conference was held at the home of Mr. Seiberling to establish a community-wide program of work. As a result of this conference all Americanization classes were placed under the general supervision of Mr. H. T. Waller, who had come to Akron as the General Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., and who has been a pioneer in this work in industrial centers since 1905.

In 1915 the Akron Chamber of Commerce raised a fund of $10,000 which was turned over to the Board of Education to be used for the instruction of adult immigrants. The following year the Board of Education decided to assume the responsibility for free adult immigrant education. Meanwhile there had developed Bureaus of Education in the large industries which dealt primarily with the teaching of a working knowledge of English to the non-English speaking employees. This work in the Goodrich, Goodyear, and Firestone companies was developed with the understanding that eventually the responsibility for instruction would rest with the public schools.

Mr. E. P. Wiles was brought to Akron in 1917 as assistant superintendent of schools in charge of extension activities. With his coming began a development of adult immigrant education in Akron which has given the city

a place of respect in the nationwide development of this work. Leaders in adult immigrant education throughout the country have come to look to Akron for progressive leadership in this field.

The outstanding recent development has been the work with women with particular emphasis upon the problems of the foreign-born mother making her home and properly raising children in an American community. More than 1000 mothers have attended classes in Akron during the past five years. In addition to the women's classes are night schools, schools at industries, and special classes

First High School, Northeast Corner Mill and Summit Sts.

conducted for men and women who have filed petition for final naturalization papers.

The entire development of Americanization effort in Akron has been particularly characterized by a decided interest on the part of employer, teacher, and social worker in the human side of the foreigner's life. The history of this work is a gradual growth from a "hit or miss" policy to a well understood, well organized, and well de-

fined effort reaching the worker in industry, the child in school, and the mother in the home.

Parochial Schools

The Catholic schools of Akron are directly controlled by the pastor in whose parish the school is located. The Catholic school system of the Cleveland Diocese is under the control of a board of education composed of the Rt. Rev. Bishop, a chairman and five members together with a superintendent and four sisters acting as supervisors. The teaching status of the schools is given in the following extract from the Official Year Book issued in 1924: "During the past year 521 sisters applied for and received state life teachers' certificates. The holders of these certificates are entitled to teach in any school of Ohio, public or private. These certificates are the highest mark of approbation which it is in the power of the state to confer upon teachers. According to present plans, every teaching sister in the Diocese will possess either the State Life or the State Provisional certificate by June, 1927. For the purpose of furthering teacher training, four normal schools have been operating for many years in the Diocese." The report further states the aims of the Catholic schools given in order of their relative importance are as follows: training in religion and morality, in physical health, in mental vigor, in social and civic attainments.

The Catholic schools in Akron had very humble beginnings, being totally dependent upon the parish resources for their maintenance and construction. In St. Vincent's parish which is the oldest parish in the city, the little frame Church on Green st., was first used as a school for many years. The present pastor's mother taught in this school. In 1881 the building was enlarged to provide four large rooms and the sisters of the Holy Cross, Notre Dame, Ind., were engaged that year to teach. In 1892 a new brick school was built at a cost of $18,000.

The present high school located at West Market and Walnut sts., was built in 1918 by the present pastor, Rev. J. J. Scullen. The elementary grades had 531 pupils in 1924 and the four-year high school course had 256 in attendance.

St. Bernard's school was first opened in September, 1863, in one room of the basement of the first church, northeast corner of South Broadway and E. Center st. The present school, at the southwest corner of S. Broadway and East Center st., was begun in 1887 and dedicated March 29, 1889 and 400 children attended, with the sisters of Notre Dame in charge. At the present time the school has a two-year high school course and in 1924 had 15 students in attendance at the high school and 488 in attendance in the elementary school.

St. Mary's school began with three school rooms as a part of the lower story of the brick church on South Main st., opposite McCoy st., which was built in 1887, with 75 pupils. Additional room was needed for the school and this building was entirely occupied for that purpose in 1895. The present school building on Coburn st., was built and completed January, 1917, under the present pastor, Rev. J. S. O'Keefe. It has 16 class rooms, an auditorium and gymnasium. In 1924, attendance was 699 in elementary grades and 146 in the four-year high school course.

Sacred Heart Academy was first opened in September, 1904, in the present Sisters' Home at 274 South Broadway which was acquired by the Sisters of St. Domonic. On Nov. 12, 1914, the present brick school on South Broadway was dedicated. In 1924 there were 136 pupils in the elementary grades and 58 in the four-year high school course.

Annunciation school was opened in 1909 in a frame building near Broad and Kent sts., by the present pastor, Rev. R. A. Dowed. A brick school was later constructed

on the land where the church is located and now has a total of 11 rooms with the use of an auditorium in the basement of the church. In 1924, 636 children were in attendance.

St. Hedwig's school was opened in January, 1920, under the pastorate of Fr. Joseph Sztucki and in 1924 had 230 children in attendance. Plans have been completed for building a new combination school and church at Glenwood and Butler sts., at a cost of $85,000.

St. Martha's school on Tallmadge ave., was opened Sept. 13, 1920, with 248 pupils in attendance under the present pastor, Rev. J. A. McKeever. This six-room brick school was built at a cost of $85,627. An addition of six rooms was opened Sept. 10, 1923, with a total of 294 pupils in attendance.

Our Lady of the Elms school was purchased Sept. 11, 1923, by the Sisters of St. Domonic, an order established by St. Domonic. The property was formerly the A. H. Marks estate on West Market st., and contains about 25 acres. It was dedicated Oct. 14, 1923, by Rt. Rev. Bishop Schrembs, as a school and provincial convent and opened Oct. 15, 1923, with 12 pupils. On Sept. 29, 1924, a new school building was opened, having 8 class rooms and at present has 85 pupils from kindergarten to fourth year high school, of both Catholic and non-Catholic. Rt. Rev. Msgr. James O'Leary was appointed resident chaplain Sept. 22, 1923.

German Lutheran School

About 55 years ago the congregation of the Zion Lutheran Church voted to establish and support a parochial school. At the present time it has an enrollment of 162 boys and girls—with a faculty of four—under the direction of F. B. Miller, principal. The curriculum includes the studies of all grades up to the end of the eighth year. Next year the ninth year grade will be included.

Private Schools

There were many private or "select" schools in the early days of Akron, for it has always been a matter of great concern to our people that the children should have good training. As early as 1836 a private school was taught by Miss Sarah Carpenter and Miss Blodgett, and in the same year a school in South Akron was opened. Evidently some of these adventures were not successful, (was it financial troubles?) for numerous advertisements of "select schools" are found in the early records. In the list of pupils in a school opened by Mr. and Mrs. Olmstead, we find the names of children of the King and the Spicer families. In 1855 a school at the corn of Brown and East Exchange sts., was opened by Miss Sarah King. She announced that she would teach reading, writing, and arithmetic, and would give lessons in embroidery.

After the public school system of Akron was ably and thoroughly organized, few private schools were in existence. In the early part of the present century Miss Grace Miller opened a school called "Oak Place School." She had as assistant Miss Weymouth, a Wellesley graduate. The grades taught in this school ranged from kindergarten to a preparatory course for Wellesley. Miss Mary Latham and Miss Grace Manning continued the work of this school after Miss Miller and Miss Weymouth discontinued.

In 1920, the "Old Trail School" on a distinctly new idea was organized. The moving spirit of this organization was Dr. W. C. Geer and a group of men who had children ready for kindergarten work, and they wanted to provide the very best in education for them. The fundamental idea of self government, of independence in thinking, of the development of the natural characteristics of the child came to be recognized as the distinctive marks of this school. It is frankly progressive in its

methods and ideals. The grades now are from kindergarten through the fifth year. The attendance this year has been about 60 children. The school is located at 780 West Market st.

Preparatory Department of Buchtel College

September 11, 1872, was the natal day of Buchtel College. One building housed both a collegiate and a preparatory department. In point of numbers, the preparatory was much the stronger, having one hundred seventy-one students, (only about forty per cent of whom resided in Akron) out of a total of two hundred seventeen. The student body was decidedly democratic, little distinction being shown at social functions, chapel, or on campus. Only two teachers were assigned strictly to this department, professors from the collegiate assisting where needed. The first year only two courses were offered, a philosophical and a classical, each being for three years. Many students, of necessity, were classed as irregular. In 1874, Miss Jennie Gifford became principal. Her coming brought organization, life, and strength. In 1876 a normal course was established.

The decennial year at Buchtel, 1881-2, found the academy not increased in numbers, but advanced in character to a well organized and disciplined school, strong in all lines of work. As the collegiate grew in numbers, the democratic spirit, which was so pronounced at first, lessened to a marked degree. The Buchtel Record of November, 1882, gives an account of a very spirited skirmish between college men and "preps." The battle was the outcome of the initiation of the cap and gown by the senior class of that year. After that date the line of distinction was closely drawn.

In 1889, Miss Jennie Gifford resigned as principal after a most faithful and efficient service of twenty-four years. She was succeeded by Prof. O. E. Olin, an educator of note from Kansas. On Dec. 20, 1899, occurred

the great fire, which burned the college to the ground. Through the kindness of Mr. F. W. Albrecht, the rooms above his drug store on Center st., were hastily converted into class rooms and given to the college rent free, for the use of the preparatory department. Soon after the holidays the school again opened. The trustees of Buchtel College made immediate preparations to erect two new buildings, one for the collegiate, on the site of the burned building, and one for the preparatory on a portion of the campus facing Sumner st. The latter was completed and occupied in 1901, and the name of the school was officially changed to Buchtel Academy. The normal course was dropped and the curriculum enlarged from a three-year course to a strict four-year, thus meeting all requirements for entrance to college. In 1904, Principal Olin resigned to become a member of the college faculty. In 1906, Mr. Charles Rundell, '98, Buchtel, became principal. He was assisted by a strong corps of teachers. Principal Rundell spared no effort to make the academy a first-class preparatory school and was rewarded by seeing it upon the accredited list of many of the leading colleges and universities of the country.

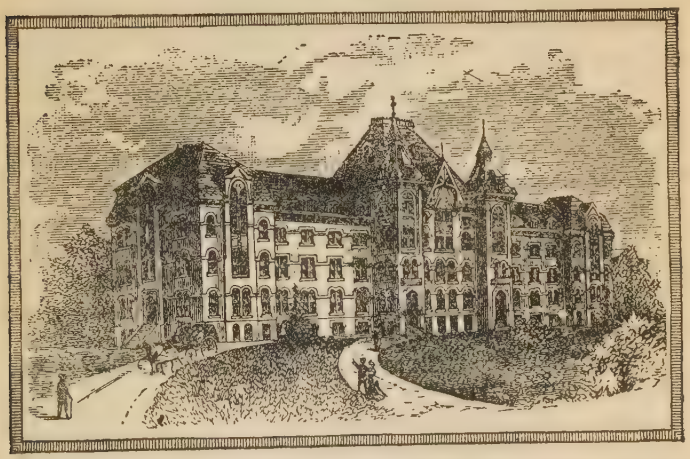
On Dec. 15, 1913, Buchtel College became the Municipal University of Akron. As a result, the academy had to be discontinued, because to continue would be duplicating the work the city was already supporting in its high schools.

Thus passed from existence, the preparatory department, which for more than forty years had served its purpose as a strong adjunct to the institution.

Buchtel College—
Municipal University of Akron

Buchtel College was a child of the Ohio Universalist Convention. In June, 1867, the members, assembled at their annual meeting, took the first definite step toward

the founding of a school in which their children might "receive instruction by these who are fully imbued with the spirit of our faith." At first the thought was to establish only an academy, but as the Akron people were much interested in high school education, the committee of the convention decided to establish a college. John R. Buchtel had become enthusiastic over the project, and devoted a large part of his wealth to the enterprise. At first he subscribed $6000 toward a building fund, and pledged $25,000 toward an endowment fund. During his lifetime Mr. Buchtel gave almost his entire fortune to Buchtel



The Original Buchtel College, Main Building. From Photograph Made About 1873.

College,—his gifts amounting to almost half a million dollars. His generosity measured not only in dollars but in time and devotion, was unstinted, and his loyalty to the institution was unfailing.

The site selected for the new building was the gift of Avery Spicer—the old Spicer cemetery, a part of the Spicer farm originally owned by Major Miner Spicer, the

first settler of Akron. Ground was broken March 15, 1871. By July 4 the foundation walls were completed, and on that day the corner stone of the building was laid by the Masonic order—the address being delivered by Horace Greeley. September 20, 1872, the formal exercises of dedication, and the installation of the first president, Rev. S. H. McCollester, D. D., took place. The first year the students numbered 217, with a faculty of seven members.

The citizens of Akron were interested in the new college, and leading citizens such as Judge E. P. Green, George T. Perkins, Judge N. D. Tibbals, General A. C. Voris, George W. Crouse, served on the board of trustees for many years.

The first two presidents, Dr. McCollester (1872-8) and Dr. E. L. Rexford (1878-80) were men of varied abilities and great vision, and so were peculiarly fitted to organize and develop the work of the college. As to the faculty, that there were "giants in those days" can be proved by mentioning the names of Prof. Carl F. Kolbe, Dr. Charles M. Knight, and Prof. Elias Fraunfelter. The students of old Buchtel count it an honor to have been under their inspiring influence.

From 1880-96 the college faced the problems of development—enlarging of the courses of study, increasing its equipment, and putting itself on an adequate financial basis. Dr. O. Cone was president during this period. During his administration new and valuable assistants were added to the faculty. Dr. E. W. Claypole, Professors Bates and Shipman, Dr. Howe, Professor H. V. Egbert, Miss Maria Parsons, Miss Jewett, and Miss Merrill are names that are always mentioned with pride.

The financial distress of 1893-6 embarrassed the college trustees, and at one time the question of suspending work for one year was greatly discussed, but this radical step was prevented by the loyalty of friends and the de-

votion of the members of the faculty, who voluntarily asked for substantial reductions of salary.

Dr. Cone resigned from the presidency in 1896, and Dean Charles M. Knight acted ad interim until the appointment of Dr. Ira A. Priest in 1897. His administration was made tragic by the fire of mysterious origin which destroyed the whole main building, December 20, 1899. The city pledged cooperation in the work of rebuilding. On January 4, 1900, the new term opened, with full attendance all standing for chapel service in Crouse Gymnasium, which was used as class rooms, library, chapel, and chemical and physical laboratories. A woman's dormitory was established on South Union st., largely through the generosity of Mesdames F. H. Mason and I. C. Alden, and named in their honor "Masaldwar."

President Priest resigned in 1901 and Dr. A. B. Church was called to fill the office. This he did finely and strongly until his untimely death in November, 1912. During this time new buildings were constructed; the largest and finest being Knight Chemical Laboratory, fittingly named in recognition of the long years of splendid service rendered by Dr. Charles M. Knight. The curriculum was in every way enriched. President Church tried to make Buchtel College of the highest service to Akron and its vicinity. His sudden death found it at one of the most critical hours of her history—her very existence was threatened. His successor, Dr. Parke R. Kolbe, was peculiarly fitted to take up the burden. A son of Old Buchtel, keenly sympathetic with its traditions, a successful and popular professor since 1905—he was the fitting choice of the board of trustees.

Dr. Kolbe turned for guidance to the successful Municipal University of Cincinnati, and following its example, he proposed April, 1913, to the trustees a program of offering to the City of Akron, upon certain conditions, the entire plant and endowment of Buchtel College,

which was to become the nucleus for a municipal university. The trustees, after due consideration, voted unanimously to bring the matter to the attention of the city through its charter commission, then engaged in writing a new charter for the city. In August of that year the offer of the college trustees was accepted by the City Council—the ordinance of acceptance became effective Septembr 24, 1913, and "Old Buchtel" began the year 1914 as the Municipal University of Akron. Buchtel College of Liberal Arts went on as usual, but several new schools were organized—the College of Engineering and the School of Home Economics, also a new department co-operating directly with the city work—the Department of City Tests—in which all tests for the city, chemical, bacteriological, and physical are made.

Has the program of President Kolbe, which seemed radical in 1913 been successful? Let facts speak for themselves. In his last report, President Kolbe tells the city, of the growth of the university, from 198 students in 1913-14 there were in the first semester of 1924-25, 954 students in the day classes and 878 in the evening classes, and in the summer session of 1924—359, a total of 2191. From a faculty of 23 in 1913-4 to one of 55 members (full time only) in 1924-25.

"The Engineering College has established close relations with the industrial activities of the city. The Department of Chemistry has established the only course in rubber chemistry in the United States. The Evening School offers numerous courses each year for the adult population of the community. Other departments are in constant touch with related community interests."

During President Kolbe's term of office two new buildings have been erected on the campus, the Engineering Laboratory and the Carl F. Kolbe Hall, the library building. The latter was the gift of two citizens of Akron, Mr. Frank H. Mason and Mr. F. A. Seiberling.

So the University of Akron stands today—What of the future? "The future of the university depends on the future of Akron, and the only reasonable limit to its growth is the limit of the city itself."

Development of Business Colleges

Nearly a half century ago, Peter Hammel established the Hammel Business College. It was the first school of the kind in Akron, and for nearly twenty years it enjoyed a steady, healthy growth under his leadership.

Mr. Hammel's successors have been men of vision, keenly interested in training Akron youths to meet the ever growing demands of business. Competent teachers, correct methods of instruction, use of modern office appliances, careful selection of student body, and infrequent changes of management contribute to the perpetual success of the institution.

About thirty years ago another school was started in Akron, by H. A. Miller, which later developed into the Actual Business College. It, too, has made progress in keeping with Akron's growth. Other business colleges were started from time to time, but their existence was of short duration. The two old schools, the Hammel and the Actual are fully accredited in business education.

Authors of the foregoing history of Akron's schools are particularly indebted to Miss Bertha Schoeninger for assistance in the history of the public schools and to E. C. McQueeney for portions relating to the Catholic parochial schools.

The Churches of Akron

By Rev. George Parkin Atwater, Litt. D.

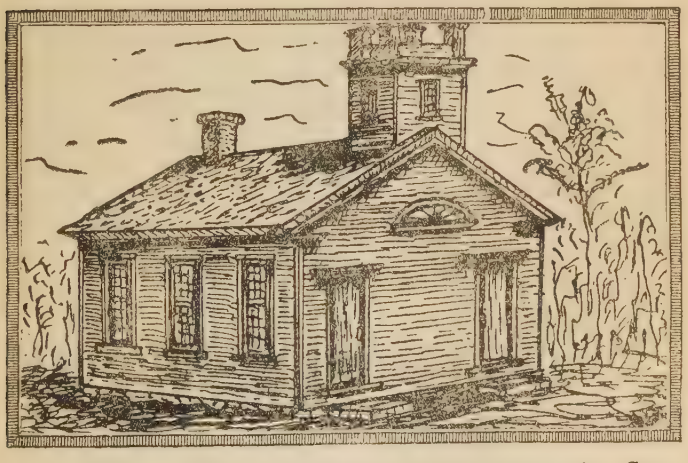
NO PHASE of modern life so completely reflects the cosmopolitan character of our city, as do its Churches. Our county has one court house, and the justice and equity there administered are considered applicable to all sorts and conditions of men. We have three types of schools, public, parochial and private, but the text books of such schools would be almost interchangeable. All types of public service are available to our residents without discrimination.

But our Churches present a picture of the variety of influences to which men are subject, the traditions to which they cling, the racial habits in which they are immersed. They are resultant organizations of conviction, custom, affection for homeland, sentiment about customs, and a desire to perpetuate a heritage received from the forefathers. A survey of the religious organizations and groups of a city such as Akron, brings one face to face with the fact that we are a cosmopolitan people, gathered from the ends of the earth, steeped in the mental and religious conceptions and traditions of a mighty past. And it further reveals the fact that we vary in our interests, our emphases, our tastes, our convictions and our training.

Yet beneath all the variety, one fundamental fact emerges from a survey of our Churches. That fact is that humankind is incurably religious. The long list of the societies devoted to religion is a sure evidence that men and women are concerned for the spiritual and eternal. The national complexity of our

religious heritage is relieved of some of its disadvantage by reason of the fact that every Church worthy of the name upholds the fundamental principles of the surpassing worth of righteousness. And righteousness exalteth the nation.

The history of Akron Churches, in general, is an epitome of the development of the religious institutions of our land. First came a period of pioneering, with itinerant pastors and occasional services. Small groups gradually formed for the purpose of having an alliance with some national Church or denomination, and to support a resident pastor. The larger



Akron's First Church Building, Erected Where the Court House Now Stands.

denominations soon had settled congregations.

For the greater part of the last century the appeal of the Protestant Churches was for the conversion of the individual. Frequent revivals were held to arouse the indifferent. Very rigid codes of personal conduct were taught and enforced. With the beginning of

the present century three new features appeared more conspicuously in the work of the Churches. They were (1) the emphasis upon the care and education of children, (2) a relaxation toward proper and supervised recreation and (3) the spirit of social service.

The Churches are devoting more and more attention to the training of children. A better understanding of child psychology has caused an improvement in lessons and in instruction of our Sunday Schools. Akron children have a far better opportunity to enjoy their relation to the Church than the children of fifty years ago.

The Churches have emerged from the confused shadows which cast a gloom over men's spirits. Most Churches today recognize that proper recreation is not a concession to human weakness but an essential part of the wholesome development of each individual. Many Churches feel a responsibility for providing proper recreation for their people, as a safeguard against commercialized amusements that have no concern for the moral welfare of their patrons. This development is national in scope—but the Churches of Akron reflect this movement in their activities.

There has been a progressive advance in social service. The Roman Catholic Churches have indeed for many years expended large sums for schools, orphanages and hospitals. The Hebrew congregations have been long noted for their liberality toward their charitable institutions. And other Churches have contributed generously to benevolences and charity.

But charity is not synonymous with social service. Charity aims to relieve distress, social service aims to prevent distress. Our Churches have progressed through a period of mere charitable concern for the unfortunate to the more adequate steps to prevent,

rather than merely ameliorate distressing conditions of life.

The latter part of the present century has marked the rapid advance not only of science and material civilization but of man's knowledge of history, of literary criticism, of psychology and kindred sciences. These are fresh elements in the problems of religion. They have had a marked effect upon the great religious bodies, and are reflected in the local congregations. A survey of Akron's Churches today gives us a complete cross section of the vast problems that confront religious America. Diversity of religious emphasis has increased, due to race, language, traditional training, custom, conviction, and modern knowledge.

But with this diversity there is an increasing spirit of service, a civic spirit of helpfulness, a profound emphasis upon righteousness, and among all enlightened people the noble spirit of religious tolerance.

This very brief survey of the general trend of the life and work of our Churches during the past hundred years would not be complete without a word of tribute to the influence and devotion of the numerous pastors and priests, who during the last century have zealously contributed to the life of the city, and who have ministered faithfully to their congregations.

During the first fifty years of the Century (1825-1875) Akron developed but sixteen congregations. It is impossible in the space allotted to this article to give more than a bare mention of the origin of the early congregations.

PRESBYTERIAN

The First Presbyterian church was established on December 15, 1831, in Middlebury. This is the oldest church in the present city area of Akron.

Among the charter members of the Church was Harvey D. Spellman, the father of Mrs. John D.

Rockefeller. The second Church building occupied from 1885 to 1904 is the present home of the East Akron branch of the Y. M. C. A.

Presbyterian Churches, 1925—

First Presbyterian, established 1831. Rev. William Henry Huber, D. D., pastor since 1920.

Central Presbyterian, established 1893. Rev. F. W. Kirkpatrick, pastor.

Firestone Park Presbyterian, established 1917. Rev. G. Taylor Wright, pastor.

CONGREGATIONAL

The First Congregational Church was organized in 1834. This society erected Akron's first Church building, a small structure on the present court house grounds.

Because of preaching of Second Advent doctrines by the pastor, a group of members withdrew from the Church in 1843, and organized the Second Congregational Church. The original First Church disintegrated in time, and the Second Church became the first.

In 1873 Dr. Thomas E. Monroe became pastor of the Church. His pastorate and that of his successor, Dr. H. S. MacAyeal, covered nearly half a century.

Congregational Churches, 1925—

First Congregational, E. Market and Union sts., Rev. Lloyd C. Douglas, D. D., pastor.

West Congregational, W. Market and Balch sts., Rev. James E. Wolfe, pastor.

Welsh Congregational, 30 McCoy st.

Thomastown Congregational, S. Arlington st. (Ext.), Rev. H. N. Richards, pastor.

METHODIST

As early as 1830 a small class was meeting in South Akron, and within two or three years (about 1833)

the Church was organized. A Church building was erected at the corner of Church and Broadway, and was occupied in 1837. In a later building, under the direction of Lewis Miller, a model Sunday School room was built, having an arrangement of class rooms that has been widely copied.

Methodist Churches, 1925—

First M. E., Rev. W. V. Mallalieu, D. D., pastor.
Grace M. E., Rev. J. J. Wyeth, pastor.
North Hill M. E., Rev. E. S. Smith, pastor.
Main St. M. E., Rev. E. M. Lewis, pastor.
Woodland, M. E., Rev. J. I. Wean, pastor.
N. Arlington St. M. E., Rev. W. W. Long, pastor.
S. Arlington St. M. E., Rev. E. E. Sparks, pastor.
Wooster Av. M. E., Rev. E. A. Brown, pastor.
Firestone Park M. E., Rev. W. D. Heaston, pastor.
Goodyear Heights M. E., Rev. J. B. Moyer, pastor.
First German M. E., Rev. Fred Schaenzlin, pastor.
Zion A M. E., Rev. J. L. Black, pastor.
Bethel A M. E., Rev. J. W. Williams, pastor.
Free Methodist, Rev. C. A. Mitchell, pastor.
Wesleyan Methodist, Rev. H. H. Davis, pastor.
Scandinavian M. E.
Centenary M. E.
Calvary A M. E.
St. Matthew's M. E., Rev. J. A. Loftin, pastor.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Paul's Episcopal Church was organized in 1836. The congregation met at first in the old Stone Block, at the corner of Howard and Market sts. A Church building was begun in 1840 on North Maple st., but before it was occupied the plans were changed and a new building was erected on South High st. The Church moved to its present location in 1885.

(It is interesting to note that the Rev. Philander Chase, later the first Bishop of Ohio and the founder

of Kenyon College—reported to the Diocesan Convention at Columbus in 1818 as follows: "I held divine service and regularly incorporated a parish of our Communion at the Iron Works in the township of Tallmadge, by the name of St. Stephen's Church. The "Iron Works" was "Middlebury." Bishop McIlvaine reported a visit to Middlebury on October 11, 1833. He says in his Journal: "Next day to Akron to take the canal to Massillon. This growing place (Akron) is destined to become a manufacturing town of great importance." The Bishop was a good prophet.)

Episcopal Churches, 1925—

St. Paul's Church, Rev. S. E. Keeler, rector.

Church of Our Saviour, Rev. George P. Atwater, D. D. Litt. D.—Rector since 1897. Rev. Charles T. Hull, curate.

The Richard P. Marvin Memorial Parish House was erected for the use of the Church of Our Saviour in 1911. It was the first parish house in the city for recreational and social purposes.

St. Saviour's Chapel of the Church of Our Saviour, erected in 1909.

St. Andrew's Church, Rev. G. M. Brewin, priest in charge.

St. Peter's Church, Rev. F. S. Eastman, rector.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES

The following concerning the early and later Catholic churches in Akron is contributed by E. C. McQueeney of the Catholic Service League.

The first record of a Catholic priest visiting the Akron territory was in 1833 when Rev. John Martin Henni, afterward Archbishop of Milwaukee, came to minister to the few souls of that time. He said mass in the log cabin of James McAllister, contractor for that portion of the canal then building from Akron to Monroe Falls. The

old Dunn home on Green street and other private homes were frequently used as places of worship until 1845. Rev. Basil A. Shorb recorded the first baptism on Dec. 11, 1837. In 1844 Rev. Morris Howard began the first Catholic church in Akron, St. Vincent de Paul's, which was a small frame structure on Green street. In February, 1845, Rev. Cornelus Daly was appointed the first resident pastor. The present stone church was commenced in 1864 and dedicated on St. Patrick's Day, 1866. Nine pastors have served this parish. The present pastor is Rev. J. J. Scullen, who was appointed November 10, 1914. Rev. T. F. Mahar, D. D. served the longest period, from August 1, 1880 to the time of his death, October 18th, 1914.

St. Bernard's parish was formed of German speaking Catholics, Rev. Henry L. Thiele, first pastor, in 1861. A St. Peter's Building Society was formed at that time, Andre Metzler, president; Adam Kemple, vice president; Adam Breiner, Secretary and John M. Metzler, treasurer. At the first meeting, $2.75 was turned in. As most of the parishioners were Bavarians, a request for a donation was forwarded to King Louis of Bavaria who responded with a contribution of $500. The cornerstone of the old church at South Broadway and East Center streets was laid by Vicar General Luhr, July 13, 1862. The church was completed in 1863. Five pastors have served the parish including the present pastor, Very Rev. F. A. Schreiber. Rev. John B. Broun served the longest period, from July 19, 1866 to the time of his death, July 10, 1915. The present stone church was begun in 1901, completed and consecrated, 1905.

St. Mary's church was established as a mission by Rev. T. F. Mahar of St. Vincent's in 1887. A combination brick church and school on South Main street, opposite McCay street, was occupied for the first time, November 27, 1887. On Dec. 12, 1896, the Rev. Francis

T. Moran was appointed the first resident pastor. The following spring a hall was built for the use of the Young Men's Union of the parish. A frame church on South Main street was dedicated on Oct. 13th, 1895. The present pastor is Rev. J. S. O'Keefe, the present stone church, school, parsonage and convent on Coburn and West Thornton sts., have been developed during his pastorate. The stone church at the corner of West Thornton and Coburn sts., was dedicated in October, 1916.

The Annunciation parish was established in June, 1907 when Rev. R. A. Dowed, the first duly appointed pastor, said Mass in a frame building at the Southeast corner of East Exchange and North Arlington streets. The cornerstone of the present church was laid in May, 1912, and the church dedicated Aug. 10, 1913. It was rebuilt and enlarged during 1923 so that it is practically a new church.

St. John's Church (Slovak) was established in the fall of 1907 when Father Augustine Tomasek held services the first time in the chapel of St. Bernard's for the Slovak and Polish groups of Akron. The first resident pastor was Rev. W. Furst. There have been six pastors including the present pastor, Rev. G. P. Novak, who was appointed on March 23, 1923.

St. Hedwig's Church (Polish) was established in Feb. 1910 when Rev. B. Walter said Mass for the first time for the Polish group in Akron at St. Vincent's church. The first duly appointed pastor was Father B. Salomon. The present pastor is Rev. F. J. Kozlowski. Plans have been completed for the erection of a combination school and church at a cost of $85,000.

Mass was first said about 1904 for the Syrian group of Catholics in Akron. The present church property at Wooster Ave. and Locust St., was purchased in 1915. The pastor is Rev. A. Riashy.

The Holy Ghost Church, Greek Rite, for the Ukrainian group was built in 1915 at Washington and Able sts. Rev. L. Chapelski was appointed the first resident pastor. Eight pastors have served including the present pastor, Rev. V. Korytowski.

St. Michael's Church, Greek Rite (Hungarian) was first established in 1912 and the first regularly appointed pastor was Rev. Stephen Malanak in 1917. The present pastor is Rev. M. Laurisin, who conducts services in the frame church on Ackley st.

The first meeting to establish the Sacred Heart of Jesus parish was held in the basement of St. Bernard's church, Nov. 2nd, 1915. The first duly appointed pastor was Rev. Oscar Solymos. The present pastor, Rev. F. Pupinsky, was appointed, 1922. The cornerstone for the new brick church on Grant st., was laid Nov. 23, 1924.

Father Halaburda from Cleveland said Mass at St. Bernard's church on Aug. 5, 1917, the first time for the Lithuanian group. The present pastor, Rev. M. Cybellis was appointed pastor of St. Peter's church, and in 1924, the present brick church at 1414 East ave., was dedicated by Rt. Rev. Bishop Schrembs.

St. Martha's Church was established in 1919 and Rev. J. A. McKeever was the first duly appointed pastor. Services were held in a frame building on Tallmadge ave. until Christmas Day, 1923 when the first Mass was said in the new brick church, built as a part of the school building.

St. Paul's parish was established in 1919. The first pastor was Rev. James M. Hanley, Chaplain of the 165 Inf. during the World War. The present brick Church was finished in 1920 on Brown st., and Father Haney died on May 5, 1920. The present pastor is Rev. Clement H. Boeke.

AKRON HEBREW CONGREGATION

The first Hebrew congregation was organized in 1865. In 1885 the building of St. Paul's Church on High st., was purchased and remodeled as a synagogue. This was occupied until the present building Temple Israel was erected on Merriman Road in 1912. The congregation is representative of Reform or Liberal Judaism. Rabbi David Alexander is the present incumbent.

Jewish Congregations, 1925—

Temple Israel (Akron Hebrew), David Alexander, rabbi.

Sons of Peace, M. Klarman, rabbi.

New Hebrew Congregation, O. Meraminsky, rabbi.

Anshe Emeth.

Chevra Ahavas Zedek.

Anshe Sfard, O. Meraminsky, rabbi.

BAPTIST

The first Baptist Church was organized on April 19, 1834. Its first church at the corner of Broadway and Center sts. was dedicated on October 26, 1837. Its present building on Broadway was erected in 1889.

Baptist Churches, 1925—

First Baptist, Rev. C. J. McLean, pastor.

Calvary Baptist, Rev. R. W. Edmondson, pastor.

Arlington St. Baptist, Rev. C. E. Hamric, pastor; Rev. M. L. Brethen, asst.

Goodyear Heights Baptist, Rev. J. M. Huston, pastor.

Second Baptist, Rev. R. A. Jones, pastor.

Roumanian Baptist, Rev. Joseph Ardelean, pastor.

Ebenezer Baptist, Rev. Henry Sellhorn, pastor.

First Hungarian Baptist, Rev. Gabriel Kecskes, pastor.

Mt. Olive, Rev. J. I. Monroe, pastor.

Swedish, Rev. G. A. Goranson, pastor.

Mt. Zion Pilgrim, Rev. J. D. Kent, pastor.

Shiloh Baptist, Rev. G. W. Hayes, pastor.

Macedonian Baptist, Rev. Joseph Lewis, pastor.

THE UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

The Universalist Church was organized in 1837. Its first building was on North High st., and was dedicated in November, 1839. The society became disorganized in 1853 but was reorganized in November, 1872, and its meetings were held in the Chapel of Buchtel College, until about 1879 when the congregation occupied its present structure at the corner of Mill and Broadway.

Universalist Churches, 1925—

First Universalist Church, Rev. G. C. Baner, pastor.

THE REFORMED CHURCHES

The beginnings of the First German Reformed Church date back to 1836. A German settler, John Heinz, began to hold services in houses for the Reformed and Lutheran settlers. They worshipped together, and in 1840 built a small stone building on North High st., the ruins of which are still standing on the brow of the hill opposite the N. O. T. & L. terminal station. Union services were held in this church until 1855, when the Lutheran element withdrew. Out of this organization therefore came the two largest German Protestant congregations of the city—the First German Reformed and the Zion Lutheran Church. The First German Reformed Church was incorporated April 21, 1857. Their present church at the corner of Broadway and Center sts. was erected in 1891. The "Old Town Bell" formerly rung at stated times each day, and for fire alarms, still hangs in the tower of this church.

Grace Reformed Church was organized on March 5, 1853. It was supported by members of the Reformed Church who preferred to use the English language. Its present structure on South Broadway near Mill was erected in 1881.

Reformed Churches, 1925—

Grace Reformed, Rev. O. W. Haulman, pastor.

First German Reformed, Rev. Dietrich Hagelskamp, D. D., pastor.

Trinity Reformed, Rev. George Smith, pastor.

Wooster Ave. Reformed, Rev. H. B. Diefenbach, pastor.

Miller Av. Reformed, Rev. Richard R. Yocum, pastor.

E. Market St. Reformed, Rev. W. E. Troup, pastor.

Williard Reformed, Rev. George A. Snyder, D. D., pastor.

Avon St. Reformed, Rev. J. Theodore Bucher, pastor.

Hungarian Reformed, Rev. Arpad Bakay, pastor.

LUTHERAN

The German Zion Lutheran Church was organized on August 6, 1854. Its present building on South High and Quarry sts. was erected in 1877. On August 18, 1872, the Rev. William H. Lothmann was installed as pastor. Dr. Lothmann is still the pastor of this Church, having served the congregation for fifty-three years, a notable record of faithful service.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity was organized in 1868 and soon began the erection of a handsome church building on South Prospect st. This was dedicated in 1872 and served until the present beautiful church on North Prospect st. was occupied in 1914.

Lutheran Churches, 1925—

Trinity Lutheran, Rev. E. W. Simon, pastor.

Zion Lutheran, Rev. W. H. Lothmann, pastor; Rev. C. W. Spiegel, assistant.

St. John's Lutheran, Rev. G. C. Wagner, pastor.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran, Rev. J. O. Yoder, pastor.

Concordia Evangelical Lutheran, Rev. J. Franklin Yount, pastor.

Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Bethania, Rev. J. A. Engwall, pastor.

Slovak Lutheran, Rev. J. J. Pelikan, pastor.

Grace Lutheran, Rev. A. E. Bay, pastor.

Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran, Rev. Stephen Zima, pastor.

Martin Luther Slovak Evangelical Lutheran, Rev. Andrew Rolik, pastor.

Hungarian Lutheran, Rev. John Ormai, pastor.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

The first Church of Christ was organized in 1839. The first meetings were held in school houses and halls. In 1845 a building was purchased. The present site on South High st., was purchased in 1863.

High St. Church of Christ, Rev. G. W. Knepper, pastor; Rev. T. B. Dunton, assistant; Rev. L. Ross Ellett, assistant.

Market St. Church of Christ, F. . Downs, pastor; C. A. Snook, assistant.

Wooster Av. Church of Christ, Rev. F. C. Ford, pastor.

North Hill Church of Christ, Rev. C. L. Johnston, pastor.

Firestone Park Church of Christ, Rev. E. P. Wise, pastor.

Forest Hill Community Christian Church, Rev. E. P. Wise, pastor.

EVANGELICAL

Calvary Evangelical Church was organized in 1866. Evangelical Churches, 1925—

Calvary, Rev. W. L. Martin, pastor.

First Evangelical, Rev. H. B. Masters, pastor.

Grace Evangelical, Rev. H. H. Maxwell, pastor.

Madison Av. Evangelical, Rev. W. L. Naumann, pastor.

North Hill Evangelical, Rev. W. M. Davis, pastor.

THE UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH

The First United Brethren Church was organized in 1882.

United Brethren Churches, 1925—

First U. B., Rev. I. D. Warner, pastor.
Howe St. U. B., Rev. W. E. Price, pastor.
Arlington St. U. B., Rev. M. A. Wagner, pastor.
North Hill U. B., Rev. W. W. Williamson, pastor.

The Greek Catholic Church is represented by two congregations and the Orthodox Greek Catholic Church by six congregations.

A complete list of religious organizations established in Akron in recent years is impossible in the space allotted to this article.

MEN AND EVENTS

Churches, like trees, expand by a growth that is almost imperceptible from year to year. But in time they become an integral part of the life of a city and occupy the earnest attention of large groups of people. The buildings become landmarks. The old First Congregational Church on High st., the First Methodist church on Broadway; St. Vincent's church on West Market; St. Paul's Episcopal church on East Market and a few others, were known to practically every citizen of Akron a quarter of a century ago.

The First Methodist church building was for many years the largest auditorium in Akron. It was generously offered for the use of the people. Its organ was one of the largest in the state. When the building was destroyed by fire in 1911, the whole city regretted the loss.

There have been many outstanding figures among the ministers of Akron. A roll of the pastors shows the various policies of the denominations in regard to the length of pastorates. The First Presbyterian church has had thirteen pastors during the century, while the First

Methodist church has had fifty-one. Both churches have flourished, however, and the results leave one in doubt as to the relative merits of the two systems.

Among older Akron residents five men stand out as conspicuous pastors of the latter half of the last century.

The Rev. Dr. Richard M. Ganter will be long remembered as a faithful pastor, a jovial comrade and a useful citizen. Dr. Thomas Monroe was an example of the good shepherd to his flock, a man of scholarship and quiet dignity of bearing.

Father John B. Broun was the vigorous leader and priest of his large congregation. Father Thomas F. Mahar was known to the whole community as a man devoted to his pastoral work and to charity. His liberal spirit and modest manner won him high regard. Rev. William Lothmann still lives among us. He has experienced the great change from the days when people had to carry lanterns at night, to this day of modern material miracles. It is said of Pastor Lothmann that he once had a dog which could distinguish the church members from others, and would wag his tail in welcome when a church member entered his yard, but would bark warningly at anyone else.

May I close this sketch with the statement of my conviction that the most wonderful opportunities lie before our churches. The watchwords of our work must be trust in God, a loyalty to the faith, the education of children, the healing of the sicknesses of the social order, and the faithful pastoral care of the people.

Cereal Mills and Millers

By Carl D. Sheppard

AKRON sprang up as a center of cereal manufacturing, ended its first fifty years with cereal manufacturing its most important industry, and reaches its centennial year with the value of its cereal manufactured products exceeded only by that of rubber products. Two eras of almost equal length mark the city's cereal history. The first was of individual enterprise, and the second, of corporate development. One was the era of flour; the other of breakfast foods. One extended from 1807 to 1886; the other from 1886 to date.

Akron became a flour center because of the engineering genius of a pioneer, Dr. Eliakim Crosby, for whom Crosby st. was named. But even before Dr. Crosby came, grist-mills were operating within the present city limits. The first was a one-story structure built in Middlebury in 1807-8-9. It drew custom work thirty to forty miles around. In 1818, it was replaced by a three-story frame building and for ten years the new mill was the chief industry of Middlebury.

The first grist-mill in the original Akron was the Old Stone mill, erected in 1832 at the foot of Mill st. How it came there is an interesting story in itself. About 1830, rivalry arose in Middlebury over the development of that settlement. Dr. Crosby set out to acquire the riparian rights to the Cuyahoga river, below, that is, after the water left, Middlebury. In order to avoid premature revelation of his plan, he purchased whole farms. Some thought he was about to found a town at what is now "Old Forge."

Dr. Crosby's plan was to divert the slowly flowing

water from the natural river bed to a suitable point where the water fall would be more abrupt and powerful. By acquiring the rights appertaining to the river banks, he acquired the right to divert the water from the river bed in his lands. This he began to do.

In 1831, Dr. Crosby began to dig the famous Cascade water race from Middlebury, around the hills, and through the woods. Prolonged blasting through solid rock was necessary at a point now overlooking the fair grounds. The race was completed quickly. It came down what is now Main st., from a point about opposite the terminal building to the Odd Fellows building, thence under the latter building to Mill st., down Mill st. to the Ohio canal and thence following the canal mostly by independent channels to the Cuyahoga river near the Swinehart Tire & Rubber plant. And there, it flows today, under streets and great buildings, carrying power to important enterprises, indeed, a life artery in a thriving city.

The Old Stone mill was a five-story stone structure. Its location on the Ohio canal gave it economical transportation facilities. At once, it became the most important mill in all the country round. The town that sprang up around it was at first called Cascade and then named Akron. Part of the old mill walls stood until 1909, when a new Quaker Oats mill took its place.

The success of the Old Stone mill soon led to the erection of rival mills. A whiskey distillery north of West Market st., and about where the American Rubber & Tire Company plant is located was converted into a flouring mill in 1837, and called the Aetna mill. Two years later, the Center mill was erected on the canal at Cherry st.

In 1840, the Cascade mill was built on the canal just south of the present North st. It was the best equipped mill in the town and even to this day remains of the great water wheel stand guard over the wrecked structure. About ten years later the City mill was erected at West

Market st. and the canal, and about 1853 the Perkins Woolen mills on Canal st. where the Akron Belting Works now stands, were converted into a flouring mill and called the Allen mills. All these mills were on the Cascade mill race.

All through this period the Old Stone mill was kept going. Ebenezer Beech operated it for a number of years and then a company ran it. In 1867, Alexander Commins, a wealthy man of town, formed a milling partnership with a young millwright, Albert Allen, who had remodeled the Perkins Woolen mills into a flour mill, and operated it for about ten years. This partnership bought the Old Stone mill. One historian says the firm did a phenomenally successful business. Mr. Commins died in 1880, but Mr. Allen continued the firm business until it was absorbed by a cereal consolidation in 1886. Its brand of flour known as "Commins & Allen" is still marketed by the Quaker Oats company, which finally succeeded to their business.

At the end of the period when flour manufacturing was the predominating industry in Akron, each of the mills enumerated herein produced probably 25 to 50 barrels of flour a day. Now the Quaker Oats company produces in Akron each day 2,400 barrels of flour, a production little dreamed of fifty years ago, but one that is in itself overshadowed by the production of breakfast foods and rubber.

Dr. Crosby had been the pioneer in the flour industry; a German by the name of Ferdinand Schumacher was to be the moving force in the breakfast food era. Mr. Schumacher came to Akron about 1851. For about a year, he was one of two partners, conducting a small notion store in the Hall block at Howard and West Market sts. During the next few years, he ran a family supply store, with the assistance of Charles W. Bonstedt as his chief clerk, first on the south side and later on the north side of West Market st., between Main and Howard sts.

It was during this period of catering to the need of the family market basket, that Mr. Schumacher's attention was directed to the greater use of cereals in the home. Cornmeal was popular here, and he had known about oatmeal in Germany. He rigged up a device for cutting oats into minute cubes. Herman Bonstedt, son of Charles W. Bonstedt, remembers Mr. Schumacher offering this product for sale in his grocery store. It was kept in glass candy jars and was sold by the ounce. Only a few ounces were purchased at a time and hours were required by the housewife to cook the oats into a palatable dish.

Just when Mr. Schumacher made his first oatmeal is uncertain. On his office window for a number of years was the year "1854," indicating this year as the origin of his business. At any rate, in 1859 Mr. Schumacher commenced the considerable production of oatmeal in a frame building on Howard st., not far from West Market st. The mill was called "The German Mill," in honor of Mr. Schumacher's fatherland.

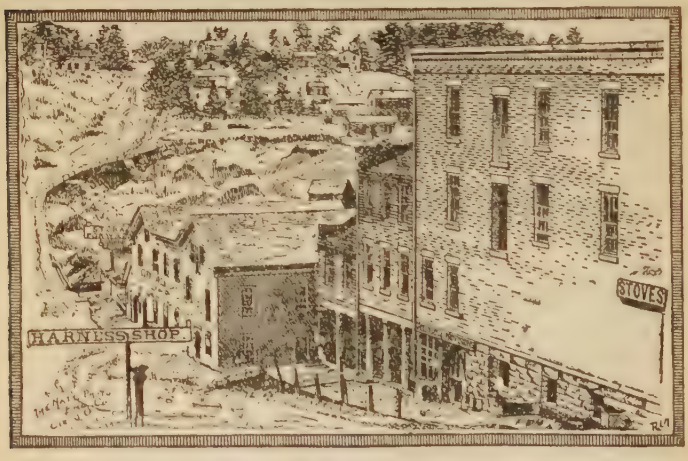
At first the production was small. One authority says a push cart was sufficient to deliver the entire output. With difficulty, a market was created outside Akron, then a town of not more than 4,000 people. The production of pearl barley was added to that of oatmeal in 1863.

By the end of the Civil War, Mr. Schumacher had gained much headway for his new industry. He erected in 1863, the first of a group of great mill buildings in the square bounded by Mill, Summit, Quarry (now Church) and Broadway. The next building, came in 1872, just after the original mill on Howard st. had burned, and was likewise called the "German Mill," a name that clung to it until the World War led the owners to paint out the name.

In the immediate years that followed, Mr. Schumacher added the famous "Jumbo Mill" of eight stories, elevators, mills and offices, and finally he had the entire block

filled from street to street. In addition, he had purchased the Old Cascade mill on the canal just south of North st., and refitted it with suitable machinery.

He had not devoted his attention exclusively to plant enlargement. He had built up a large flour business. About 1876, he changed his process of manufacturing oats. Previous to that time, he had produced oatmeal, that is, oats cut into little cubes. About the Philadelphia Centennial year, he began the production of rolled oats, that is, oats partially cooked and then rolled under heavy pressure, basis of the method employed today.



North Side of West Market at Howard St., 1858. Near Wooden Canal Bridge is The City Mill.

He tried to preserve his trade as best he could from rising competitors in Akron, Ravenna and elsewhere. He did this partly by adopting trade names for his products. In doing so, he favored Spanish names, calling his rolled oats "Rolled Avena," the latter word meaning oats, and his rolled wheat "Farina" (Spanish for wheat).

By 1886, Mr. Schumacher had become the foremost

miller of the world. Over one night, the situation changed. During the night of March 6, 1886, Mr. Schumacher's entire plant at Mill, Summit, Broadway and Quarry, was destroyed by fire, with the exception of the Empire Barley Mill. It was one of the disastrous fires in the city's history. It involved a loss to Mr. Schumacher over and above insurance of $600,000, in addition to the prospective loss of trade. Akron was threatened with the loss of a great industry.

Rival breakfast food manufacturers had been bidding for several years for Mr. Schumacher's trade. As early as 1870, Robert Turner had started an oatmeal mill at Canal and Cherry sts., in a building now used as a warehouse. In 1880, this building and business was purchased by The Hower Company, probably the first corporation to engage in the oatmeal business. Those interested in the business were John H. Hower and his three sons, Harvey Y. Hower, M. Otis Hower and A. P. Hower. By the time of the fire, this corporation was doing a large and profitable business.

Another rival had erected even a larger plant. This was the Akron Milling Company. In 1884, the Comminss-Allen interests, which had been successful in the flour trade, had joined with Henry Robinson, Charles Inman and Miner J. Allen in organizing the corporation known as the Akron Milling Company and erecting a large mill on Howard st., adjoining the Old Stone mill on Mill st. Other mills were operating in substantially the same field, at Ravenna the leading one perhaps being the Quaker mill, owned by H. P. Crowell and J. H. Andrews.

The rivals saw in the Schumacher catastrophe an opportunity for business to flow to them.

The Akron Milling company was just building up its trade. Negotiations opened immediately after the fire for a consolidation of this company, having a new mill striving for business with the Schumacher interest, hav-

ing a business with no mill. Pressure was brought to bear from outside sources to force the Akron Milling company to forego the anticipation of drawing to it a large part of the former Schumacher trade, and within a month of the fire, the Schumacher interests and the Akron Milling interests were consolidated into a $2,000,000 corporation known as The F. Schumacher Milling Company with the following officers: President, Ferdinand Schumacher; vice president, Albert Allen; vice president, Louis Schumacher; secretary, F. Adolph Schumacher; treasurer, Hugo Schumacher.

The Akron Milling company lacked railroad facilities. Its incoming and outgoing products had to be teamed. The new corporation remedied this situation. A plan was put into operation whereby grain was blown by air 1,600 feet through the city. Nothing of its kind existed in the world.

Five pipes,—two, being ten inch pipes; two, seven inch pipes; and one, eight inch pipe,—were laid from elevators, cleaning and drying rooms hastily reconstructed near the railroad tracks on the site of the burned Schumacher buildings, under the city streets to the lower mills on Howard st. Under air pressure, grain began to pour into the lower mills from the Broadway buildings. Even to this day the pipes are a valuable asset in the operation of the mills.

In June, 1891, The F. Schumacher Milling Company was consolidated with its principal rivals in the United States, including The Hower company, which had continued to manufacture with increasing success, cereal goods at Canal and Cherry sts. Shortly thereafter the Hower plant was sold for other business uses.

The new company was known as The American Cereal Company, with a capitalization of $3,400,000. Shortly after organization, its main office was removed from Akron to Chicago. Mr. Schumacher remained in control

of the new corporation until 1899, receiving a salary as president of $5,000 a year. J. H. Andrews, who had formerly been one of the owners of the Quaker Mills at Ravenna, was placed in charge of the Akron mills, a position he still holds.

For a number of years, Ferdinand Schumacher, M. Otis Hower, Miner J. Allen and J. H. Andrews represented Akron interests on the board of directors of The American Cereal Company. In 1901, the Quaker Oats company was organized as a holding company purely, and continued as such until 1907, when a reorganization took place and the Quaker Oats company became the operating corporation, superseding The American Cereal company. Thus was capitalized still further a valuable trade name, "Quaker Oats," a name first used by the Quaker Mill at Ravenna in the seventies. On the board of directors of the Quaker Oats Company were, for many years from Akron, Miner J. Allen and J. H. Andrews, a position Mr. Andrews still holds.

During the years of corporate management, many new breakfast foods have been put on the market by the corporation, the most distinctive being "puffed" wheat and rice.

During the corporate development of the Quaker Oats interests, another cereal mill made its appearance in Akron. In 1883, John F. Seiberling organized the Seiberling Milling company and built in East Akron on a site now occupied by the most westerly of the Goodyear Rubber buildings, a six story brick mill, later devoted exclusively to oatmeal. "Mother's Oats" was the trade name of its products for a number of years. In 1901, this company became associated with The Great Western Cereal company. Cereals were manufactured there until about 1912, when the business of The Great Western Cereal Company passed into the hands of The Quaker

Oats company, the Akron plant of the dissolved company being sold for other uses.

Ninety years ago all the cereal manufacturing in Akron was done at the foot of Mill st., by one concern. The mills have operated there ever since, and today all the cereal manufacturing in Akron is still done by one concern and on Mill st. Now, the miller, the Quaker Oats Company, is shipping a hundred car loads of manufactured products a day and turning out of the mills in Akron a product valued at over $21,500,000 a year. And all, an industry started by a water race in 1831.

Clay Products

By H. Karl Butler

THE first symptom of incipient civilization is pottery. The savage has his manufactures, but they pertain to the hunt and warfare. When he advances beyond the stage where he is content with a hand-to-mouth existence, he begins making pottery. He has made the first step toward civilization.

The introduction of clay into the industrial life of Akron is analogous to its entrance into the social development of a tribe. There were manufacturers in what is now Akron before the clay beds were discovered and utilized, but they were such primitive industries as flour milling and saw milling and such iron manufactures as pertained to the pioneer's life.

It was in clay that Akron found its first important export product.

The development of the clay products industry, in its early phases, illustrates the pioneer's enterprise and adaptability. It was something which he found here, and he promptly began using it.

Long before the days of prior preference stock, plotted curves of production and analysed sales resistance, a man named Fiske discovered, in Springfield township, a bed of clay suitable for making stoneware. Fiske, who was a hired hand on the farm of a man named Cutchel, promptly bought the four-acre clearing where he had made the find and began manufacturing crocks and pans. The year was about 1828.

His first apparatus was a crude "kick wheel." The products of this primitive machine were sorely needed. What household and dairy equipment the pioneer had then had been brought, at a considerable expense of money or

effort, from New England. No cabin had more than a few such utensils. There was an immediate demand for those which Fiske manufactured. He took a helper, a man named Smith, and built another wheel for him. The two together set up the firm of Fiske and Smith, the first clay products company in what was to become Summit County.

Two years later business was so good that they were able to hire a boy who had learned the trade in Painesville—a boy named Edwin H. Merrill, whose name was to loom as the real founder of the industry which made Akron the center of the clay products trade in America.

Edwin H. Merrill had learned the trade from his father, Abijah. Another son of Abijah Merrill, Calvin J., was also an adept at the trade and soon followed Edwin to Springfield, to be followed at a later date by the father himself. They worked for Fiske and for another potter, Solomon Purdy, who had entered the business in the meantime.

In 1835, Edwin Merrill bought out his former employer, Fiske. His first factory had a few crude wheels. It was housed in a shed, and its kiln was an up-draft, wood-burning affair. The father and brother worked with him. This enterprise branched beyond the household utensil trade soon after it was organized. Edwin Merrill invented a machine for making clay smoking pipes, and soon the manufacture of stoneware beer and ink bottles was added to the activities. There was a rushing trade in these articles, and the factory soon proved inadequate. Middlebury offered greater advantages. It was a larger and more direct market and it had transportation facilities. In 1847 the Merrill pottery moved to that village and established, on Bank st., its first real plant.

This made Middlebury a clay products village. Two years after the Merrill pottery began business on Bank

st., David E. Hill, Col. Reuben McMillen and Robert Foster organized the Hill, Foster & Co. potteries and two years later the Merrills and Hezekiah Camp took Foster's place in the firm, and it became Hill, Merrill & Co.

At about this time the Merrill brothers invented a machine for making small water and sewer pipes. These were manufactured in hexagonal moulds and machines were used for boring them. This early apparatus produced a sewer pipe which was bulky and unwieldy, but as a step toward the introduction of a new industry, they were important.

It had become apparent that the clay which was found in and around Akron (by that time beds had been opened inside the present city limits of this community) was excellently adapted for the manufacture of sewer pipe. David Hill and C. J. Merrill interested themselves primarily in the evolution of machinery for producing a more practical pipe by a less devious process.

Here the clay products industry goes off into two branches. Originally established to produce stoneware utensils for use in the early homes and on the early farms, it now began to devote a great deal of its activities toward the manufacture of sewer pipe, but to describe separately the development of these two branches—the sewer pipe, and the stoneware utensil—is practically impossible. There was a great deal of change not only in the products of the companies, but in the companies themselves.

In 1856, five years after the formation of the firm of Hill, Merrill and Co., the firm of Whitmore, Robinson & Co. was established to manufacture a wide variety of pottery. In these two companies, through the many changes that were made, were the roots of the two outstanding clay products companies of today—the Robinson Clay Products Co. and the American Vitrified Products Co.

In 1861, Edwin H. Merrill and his son, Henry E.

Merrill, withdrew from the Hill concern and established a big stoneware factory at South Main and State sts. Into this new business they introduced new specialties. In 1880, Frederick W. Butler entered the Merrill firm.

There began now an era which was to last until the dawn of a new century—an era of scattered clay factories, with small plants starting up here and there wherever clay was found. Business was not as intense then as it is now; it was possible for these small companies to continue in competition with each other.

They manufactured jugs, milk pans, crocks, flowerpots, meat-tubs, bottles, jars, jelly-cups and bowls for farm housekeeping. The manufacturer himself often retailed his own ware. After a winter of production (Akron was isolated in the cold months; the canal boats were frozen into the ice), the potter loaded his wares on a canal boat, and set off through the state, swapping his products for grain or live stock in the stringent days when currency was scarce.

It was not until 1900 that the greater number of these companies were consolidated and that the clay products industry took essentially the lines which it follows today.

The Hill Company—represented now by the American Vitrified Products Co.—underwent several changes in personnel after the Merrills withdrew. In 1868 it became the Hill & Adams Sewer Pipe Co. Among the stockholders in the corporation then were David L. King, Frank Adams, Lorenzo B. Austin, Ozias Barber and David E. Hill. This firm extended operations. A new two-story brick factory was erected. The best machinery was installed. The first main development of the sewer pipe branch of the business was begun in this firm at this time.

In 1871, Frank Adams and David L. King organized the Akron Sewer Pipe Co. David E. Hill and his son, George R.; James Viall, L. S. Ebright and John Har-

rison later joined this company. Two years afterward, David E. and George R. Hill, and James Viall organized the Hill Sewer Pipe Co. Viall had been a boatman on the Pennsylvania & Ohio canal and had hauled the clay products before he entered the business of their manufacture.

In 1868, the same year that the Hill and Adams Sewer Pipe Co. was incorporated, the Buckeye Sewer Pipe works were built near one of the biggest clay pits in the city, in the vicinity of Exchange and Arlington sts. Joseph H. Baldwin, Jonathan H. Brewster and Harry H. Gibbs were prominent in this company.

In 1879 Robinson Bros. & Co. built one of the largest plants in the Old Forge. Prominent in the history of this company are the names of Henry Robinson, Byron W. Robinson, Thomas Robinson, William Robinson, James B. Manton and J. F. Townsend.

The Summit Sewer Pipe Co. was established in 1889 with a big plant on Miami st. in South Akron. J. A. Baldwin and J. H. Brewster were joined by Edwin H. Gibbs and George T. Whitmore in this firm.

In the late eighties, the American Sewer Pipe Co. was incorporated by the five main companies then existing. Members of each company were on the board of directors. This association and its purposes were reminiscent of one which had been formed in the infancy of the industry fifty years before, portioning out exclusive territories to each of the allied firms and establishing an agreement on prices. The association formed in the eighties had for its principal purpose the regulation of sales according to the capacities of plants and the establishment of protection against manufacturers of inferior wares. In 1901, the actual contract of the earlier association was found among the papers of E. H. Merrill, then deceased. He and his brother were among the twelve signers.

Mention must be made of the firm which was estab-

lished in the early fifties by Enoch Rawley and Edwin and Herbert Baker, which manufactured Rockingham and Yellow ware in Middlebury. This firm early in its history became a part of the Whitmore-Robinson concern.

It would be impossible to name all the companies which were organized during the 1800's for the manufacture of clay products. The Ohio Stoneware Co. on Fountain st. and the United States Stoneware Co. next door, operated as competitors. George A. Parker and James M. Wills were among the names included in their official rosters. In the last decade they have merged under the name of the United States Stoneware Co.

Arthur J. Weeks manufactured Akron Stoneware at Arlington and East Market sts. for many years. L. K. Force and Russell H. Kent had a similar factory on Bank st. John Cook and William Fairbanks were also in business on Arlington st. The Akron Queensware Co. made queensware pottery at the intersection of Hart st. and the Valley Railroad. Members of this company were Charles C. Bates, Frank C. Tinker, T. B. Coxton and Mandus M. Hunsicker.

There was a time when nearly every child in Akron had a collection of tiny toy stoneware jugs. These were made by the American Marble and Toy Manufacturing Co. which Samuel C. Dyke established in 1884. At one time, operating with two plants, his daily output was 30,000. Burdette L. Dodge, Judge J. A. Kohler and Ira M. Miller were among its officers.

The stoneware men formed an association similar to that which was formed by the sewer pipe companies in the eighties, and a little in advance of it. The Akron Stoneware Agency was the name of this federation. In the association were James M. Wills, Henry S. Belden, Russell H. Kent, Arthur J. Weeks and William Fairbanks.

Stoneware and sewer pipes are not the only clay prod-

ucts which Akron has evolved. During the last thirty-five years, a number of companies have been formed to manufacture bricks. Their growth progressed for a time with the increase of paved road and street mileage. One of the first of these companies was the Akron Vitrified Brick Co., incorporated in 1890. Its plants were across the Cuyahoga county line, but its officers were Akron men —Joseph C. Ewart, George W. Crouse, Erastus R. Harper and Walter A. Folger being among them—and its offices were in Akron. James C. and John J. McCausland had a brick plant on Tallmadge av.; John Bailey had one on Portage Path; Samuel, Joseph and William M. Cooper, one at Spicer and Johnson sts.; and Joseph Hugill and Elijah C. Briggs, one on Washington st. extension. The brick industry, however, never achieved great prominence. The Windsor Brick Company which has been operating on Grant st. for twenty-eight years was the last of this group until The Camp Bros. Company built a large new plant near Mogadore about five years ago.

One Akron firm made roofing tile here for a time and furnished tile for many important buildings in the United States. Joseph C. Ewart operated the Roofing Tile Works on Brook st. after its founding in 1875.

In 1900 the clay products business shifted around toward a more solid and substantial form of organization. Whitmore, Robinson and Co. merged with the E. H. Merrill Co. as the Robinson, Merrill Co. Two years later this was changed to the Robinson Clay Product Co. The American Sewer Pipe Co. had meantime absorbed a great many of the smaller plants. These two companies became the principal clay manufactories.

The clay products industry today is radically different than it was at its inception in Summit county. The demands in the early days were simple; the pioneers wanted plain, simple utensils, and that was largely the extent of the industry.

As the cities grew, sanitation became a problem, and Akron, with its veins of clay peculiarly adapted to sewer pipe use, turned to supply this demand. Many of the old pottery companies converted their plants to this branch of the work. In the meantime, Akron had ceased being a pioneer city. There was a demand for finer table ware. A few of the stoneware companies continued making their particular products and some modified their product to suit the growing demands for better grades of ware, importing finer grades of clay for the purpose. Of these, the Summit China Company, formerly the Akron Stoneware Company located on Bank st. now makes "high dinner-ware" and does a large yearly business. Many of the factories which had been located at their clay pits closed when the veins were exhausted, especially the sewer pipe factories. It was impossible to pay for shipment of great quantities of raw clay while a competitor sat on top of his own supply.

Only one of the Akron stoneware firms, the United States Stoneware Company, still manufactures a full line of pottery. It has also entered the field of chemical stoneware, including the making of great heavy retorts and storage vats to be used in the manufacture of chemicals. This company is the sole surviving firm of the stoneware industry in Akron, but it does a yearly business which probably would total more than the combined business of all the stoneware plants during the first twenty-five years of the business in Akron.

Chemical-ware production was pioneered and developed, starting about twenty years ago, by Maurice Knight, who still operates his plant making the highest grade, acid-proof chemical stoneware in the country. Perfect workmanship and an impervious glaze are necessary for these large pieces.

With the growth of the electric industry the demand has risen for electrical porcelain, especially for

insulation purposes. Fine porcelain clays are imported from other states. Three companies in this vicinity are in the manufacture of this product, The Ohio Insulator Company of Barberton, The Colonial Insulator Company of Akron and the Mogadore Insulator Company located at that village. These companies have been operating for about thirty years. The Barberton company is a subsidiary of the Ohio Brass Company, The Colonial Insulator Company was formerly The Colonial Sign Company, and the Mogadore company was until recently The Akron Smoking Pipe Company, which is now operated by Fred W. Butler, Jr., almost within a stone's throw of the place where his great-grandfather turned jugs on a "kick wheel" ninety years ago. These companies manufacture a full line of insulators and special parts for electrical devices.

Following his father, who was a member of the original Hill-Merrill Co., H. B. Camp, among many other projects, made building tile in Cuyahoga Falls and Greentown. His son, L. W. Camp, continues in this business with a plant on Grant st., which was established about twenty-one years ago. Another son, H. H. Camp, gives personal attention to the Camp Bros. brick plant.

As has been related, the Robinson Clay Product Company and the American Vitrified Products Company (successor to the American Sewer Pipe Co.) rose to a domination of the sewer pipe field in the early years of this century. The Robinson firm is headed by Henry B. Manton, son of James B. Manton, one of the founders of the firm in 1856. It has eight plants in Ohio and western Pennsylvania.

The American Vitrified Products Company is headed by George R. Hill, son of David E. Hill, who, with the Merrills, manufactured the first sewer pipe here in 1851. Among the thirteen plants operated by this firm is the largest sewer pipe factory in the world, located at Barber-

ton. The two companies have a combined capitalization of $9,000,000 and do an annual business amounting to nearly $10,000,000.

The twelve chief clay products companies now operating in and about Akron are the Robinson Clay Product Company, American Vitrified Products Company, United States Stoneware Company, Summit China Company, M. A. Knight Company, Camp Brothers Company, L. W. Camp Company, Crouse Clay Products Company, Ohio Insulator Company, Colonial Insulator Company, Mogadore Insulator Company and Windsor Brick Company.

The total capitalization of these companies is approximately $11,000,000 and they do an annual business of about $13,700,000. They employ thirty-four hundred men, about one-third of them in Akron plants.

It is possible, within the confines of this short chapter, after mention of men and companies to do no more than hint of the romance which time lends to the early years of this industry. It had also a definite touch of the picturesque, which was often facetiously expressed by the title of "mud-shops."

The industry as a whole has arrived upon very stable ground. Electrical porcelain is still in its youthful years. Pottery still holds a very definite field of its own in spite of the encroachments of ware of many other materials. The makers of sewer pipe have maintained their field and grown with its expansion and development. Competing materials have failed to equal the "per dollar" service rendered by the pipe of clay.

Rubber

By Ralph C. Busbey

MORE than half of Akron's century span of existence has revolved principally around the rubber manufacturing business and its development.

Fifty-five years ago, when the rubber industry was embryonic and unknown west of the Allegheny Mountains, Akron was a smug little municipality of less than ten thousand inhabitants, nestling cozily in the then rather sparsely settled hills of Northern Ohio. Although at that time virtually the hub of the harvesting machinery business of the world and the seat of other promising industries, Akron boasted of no great industrial enterprise of such tremendous potentialities as have since been developed by the rubber industry. Its skies then were only lightly sullied by the smoke of industry. The little city had just begun to thrill under the first touch of the romance of industrialism.

That Akron of fifty-five years ago contrasts strikingly with the Akron of today,—the city pre-eminent as the Rubber Manufacturing Headquarters of the world;—a city of more than 200,000 population;—a city pulsative with industrial energy and bristling with business vigor;—a city whose rubber and tire factories have a combined acreage of factory floor space today far greater than was the total ground area covered by the entire original city of Akron;—a city which, as the mainspring of one of the mightiest and fastest growing industrial giants known to mankind, girdles the civilized world with its products.

Today more than half of the world's total produc-

tion of tires and rubber goods comes from Akron's mighty industrial institutions where more than 50,000 men and women obtain their livelihood. In Akron's rubber factories tens of thousands of light bulbs sparkle as men toil late into the hours of the night, and often all night through, in order to meet the world's growing demand for Akron's rubber products. In these factories more than half a million horse power of steam and electrical energy are consumed every 24 hours. Here thousands of massive machines grumble and throb, turning out every 24 hours more than 100,000 pneumatic automobile tires and 150,000 inner tubes, fully 150 tons of solid tires for trucks, 15 miles or more of rubberized conveyor and transmission belting, 400 miles of rubber bands, 20 miles of garden and fire hose, miles of railroad air brake and steam hose, tons of rubber couplings, nearly a million rubber heels and rubber boots and shoes for fully 25,000 people in addition to hundreds of tons of more than 30,000 different rubber commodities and novelties. Here the yawning maws of industry are fed more than 150,000 tons of crude rubber and over 300,000 bales of cotton annually, in addition to millions of pounds of chemicals and other supplies. Here employees' payrolls reach $75,000,000 a year and the revenues from the sales of finished rubber products approximate more than $380,000,000 a year.

As the list of Akron-made rubber articles numbers up into the 30,000 it is of course impossible to enumerate them. Let it suffice, therefore, that every rubber article known to the civilized world is made in Akron from the tiniest rubber washer to the mammoth rubberized silken hulls of the Leviathans of the air—the dirigibles Shenandoah and Los Angeles; from rubber bands to conveyor and transmission belts 2000 feet long, which when rolled for shipment weigh thou-

sands of pounds and stand 8 feet high; from toy balloons to hot water bottles, druggists' rubber sundries and surgical supplies; and from tire repair patches the size of a quarter to giant pneumatic and solid tires.

It was in 1870 that Destiny, aided by a few of Akron's progressive citizens, principal among whom was Col. George T. Perkins, (1836-1910) oldest son of Col. Simon Perkins, first began to shape Akron as a mighty city of industry.

Five years after the close of the Civil War, a young man who had served in it as a surgeon but who had forsaken his profession to enter the real estate business in New York, acquired stock in the Hudson River Rubber Company near Hastings-on-Hudson, as result of a real estate transaction. The location was not profitable and the young owner at the suggestion of a friend came to Akron to investigate advertised factory sites and the availability of inexpensive water power from the Ohio canal.

The young man, then 29, was Dr. Benjamin Franklin Goodrich. His visit marked the founding of the rubber industry in Akron and resulted in the establishment on the banks of the old canal just south of Exchange st., of the first rubber factory west of the Alleghenies. Dr. Goodrich was handicapped by lack of funds. Colonel Perkins had faith in him and in his project and persuaded 18 other Akron business leaders to join him, each loaning $1,000. This sum of $19,000 plus $5,000 from Dr. Goodrich's real estate partner in the East, constituted the capital of the little company. A small building was secured and manufacturing operations started under the name of Goodrich, Tew & Co. Articles of co-partnership were drawn up on December 31, 1870, with Dr. Goodrich, Harvey Tew, Henry S. Sanderson, Robert Newland and David N. Marvin as members of the company.

The first rubber article produced in Akron was fire hose. Dr. Goodrich before coming to Akron had seen a friend's home destroyed by fire because the hose was so poor it had burst. In launching his new project in Akron he determined to make a fire hose that would stand up under pressure, and as result this hose, known as "White Anchor," soon became famous.

The company struggled along for four years when the partnership was succeeded by Goodrich & Company, George W. Crouse providing the timely financial assistance which gave the firm needed working capital and its actual start towards progress and prosperity. In 1879, Alanson Work, father of the company's present chief executive, became superintendent and to his energy and leadership is ascribed a large measure of the company's subsequent success.

On May 1, 1880, the B. F. Goodrich Company applied for incorporation, the charter being granted May 10 for capital stock of $100,000. The incorporators were Dr. Goodrich, Colonel Perkins, George W. Crouse, Alanson Work and R. P. Marvin, Jr. At the organization on June 16, 1880, Dr. Goodrich was elected president, Mr. Work vice president and superintendent, and Col. Perkins, secretary and treasurer. The following year Alanson Work succumbed and Dr. Goodrich became superintendent as well as president with George W. Crouse as vice president. Mr. Work's widow, Mrs. Etta W. Work, was elected to fill his vacancy on the board of directors.

Failing health caused Dr. Goodrich to relinquish the reins of control and go West for his health. He died suddenly on August 13, 1888, Colonel Perkins being elected to succeed him as president. H. C. Corson was elected secretary and treasurer and Dr. Goodrich's widow, Mrs. Mary M. Goodrich, was honored with election to her husband's place on the directorate.

Bertram G. Work, the present chief executive, succeeded Col. Perkins on January 10, 1907.

Since its incorporation the company's vice presidents have been Alanson Work, Col. Perkins, George W. Crouse, H. C. Corson, B. G. Work, F. H. Mason, H. E. Raymond, E. C. Shaw, C. B. Raymond, W. A. Means, A. H. Marks, H. K. Raymond, W. O. Rutherford, W. C. Geer and A. B. Jones. The company has had but six secretaries—Col. Perkins, George W. Crouse, R. P. Marvin, C. B. Raymond, Guy E. Norwood and F. C. Van Cleef. The treasurers have been Col. Perkins, H. C. Corson, W. A. Folger, W. A. Means and L. D. Brown. The present executive personnel includes Mr. Work as president and chairman of the board of directors; C. B. Raymond, vice chairman of the board; W. A. Means, W. O. Rutherford and Dr. W. C. Geer, vice presidents; F. C. Van Cleef, secretary; L. D. Brown, treasurer and H. Hough, comptroller. Mr. Rutherford now is the president of the Rubber Association of America.

When the Goodrich Company started, the use of rubber products was extremely limited. As compared to the single line of Goodrich production—fire hose—of fifty years ago the company today produces over 35 carloads of more than 30,000 different rubber articles a day, and as compared to the original two-story factory building, the Goodrich factories in Akron consist of more than 60 towering buildings containing over 135 acres of floor space. Sales of the company in 1924 were $109,817,686.

Goodrich ramifications are world wide, with subsidiary and allied factories and selling companies in many countries, and branches in all parts of the world. Goodrich subsidiary and allied manufacturing companies include the British-Goodrich Rubber Co., Ltd., of Leyland, England; the Continental Caoutchouc und

Gutta Percha Compagnie, of Hanover, Germany, the largest European rubber and tire factory; the Societe Francaise B. F. Goodrich, Colombes, France; the Yokahoma Rubber Co., of Japan and the Canadian Goodrich Co., Ltd., of Kitchener, Ontario, and the B. F. Goodrich Rubber Co., S. S. Ltd., of Capetown, South Africa. Selling subsidiaries of the Canadian company are the B. F. Goodrich Co., Ltd., and the Ames-Holden Tire & Rubber Corp., Ltd., while a selling subsidiary of the French company is the Sociedad Anonima B. F. Goodrich of Madrid, Spain. Goodrich factories in Japan were destroyed during the recent earthquake there.

It is interesting to note that one of the original Goodrich employes when the company was incorporated in 1880 still is with the company. He is Percy W. Leavitt who enjoys a record of more than 45 years of uninterrupted service in this one company. Others prominent in Goodrich affairs in the earlier days include Chas. C. Goodrich of New York, John H. Kelly, now president of the Hewitt Rubber Company of Buffalo; H. C. Corson who served for many years as sales manager and who removed to Nova Scotia; the late Joseph P. Dangel of the hard rubber division; J. W. Kelly, who died a few years ago in Boston; E. C. Shaw, now retired but active in philanthropic movements in Akron; E. C. Tibbitts, for many years advertising manager, and H. E. Joy, E. L. Toy, A. P. Lohman, John F. McGuire, Chas. S. Eddy, Chas. Stacy, A. J. Wills, A. D. Moss, H. A. Bauman, Newton Johnston, Otis Cook and others. When Mr. Corson entered the Goodrich employ as a stenographer in the early seventies, he was one of the city's few short-hand writers.

The first tires to be made in Akron were solid rubber bands for the wheels of the old fashioned high bicycles, in the early eighties. The next step in the

evolution of the rubber shod wheel came with the manufacture of solid rubber tires for carriages, followed by the pneumatic bicycle tire. Then came the automobile—the greatest accelerator of the rubber business—and the success of the first solid and pneumatic tires for carriages and bicycles resulted, in 1896, in the production of the first pneumatic tires for automobiles.

From that meager start, with only a few hundred such tires produced the first year, the tire business has grown to gigantic proportions with more than 50,000,000 pneumatic casings being produced in the United States every year—more than half that number in Akron alone.

Goodrich was the first in Akron to make pneumatic tires, and also one of the first to manufacture golf balls, the company having developed the golf ball business to one of commanding proportions today.

The second Akron rubber company had its inception in 1892 when Jacob Pfeiffer, John Grether and John Lamparter, who operated a retail drug store, pooled their savings and entered the rubber business. In a comparatively short time they had lost nearly $50,000 but undaunted started over again, borrowing money to build a 20 x 50 factory. Their combined resources, of $250, they used to buy their first case of rubber. The company started making rubber gloves and grew rapidly. William F. Pfeiffer, Jacob Pfeiffer's brother, and Harvey Miller joined the three on May 1, 1898 and the business was incorporated for $50,000 under the name of the Miller Rubber Manufacturing Company. In 1906 it was re-incorporated as the Miller Rubber Company, entering the tire manufacturing business several years later.

Today the company which started with only $250 resources, is capitalized at $60,000,000. It has 26 fac-

tory buildings, over 30 acres of floor space and a capacity of more than 1,000,000 pieces of manufactured merchandise a day, with daily production exceeding 100 tons. Jacob Pfeiffer is president, William F. Pfeiffer is secretary, treasurer and general manager. Other officers include: C. T. Grant, vice president; R. R. Jennings, comptroller and assistant treasurer, and Charles R. Wetzel, assistant secretary. F. C. Millhoff is general sales manager. The company's sales in 1924 were approximately $30,000,000.

Akron's third rubber company was launched in 1894 under the name of The Sherbondy Rubber Co., under the leadership of Ohio C. Barber, president of the Diamond Match Company and founder of the city of Barberton. The company was formed to operate in the plant across Failor st., from the Goodrich factories, vacated by the Diamond Match Company when it moved to its new quarters in Barberton. The company began the manufacture of bicycle tires and drug specialties. In 1896 the name was changed to the Diamond Rubber Company when it began the manufacture of automobile tires. Three years later the company was joined by A. H. Noah, as secretary and treasurer. In 1898 the company increased its size and F. A. Hardy and W. B. Hardy of the Revere Rubber Company and W. B. Miller and A. H. Marks joined Mr. Noah in active management.

Mr. Marks in 1899 invented a new alkali process for reclaiming rubber and the Diamond Rubber Company established in South Akron a reclaiming plant. This concern grew rapidly and in 1904 Diamond and Goodrich united in forming the Alkali Rubber Company to carry on the reclaiming business under the Marks patents. The Diamond Company added steadily to its lines of products and in 1912 merged with the Goodrich Company, the latter buying it for $45,000,000 and

increasing its own capitalization from $45,000,000 to $90,000,000. Prominent in the Diamond organization were many men who were afterward prominently identified with the Goodrich and other companies, including A. H. Marks, W. B. Miller, A. H. Noah, O. S. Hart, David Galehouse, I. R. Bailey, O. J. Woodard, C. B. Myers, James D. Tew, N. S. Noble, A. L. Pardee, H. E. Riker, G. E. Norwood, Theodore Weigele, A. B. Jones, Dr. D. Spence, George Oenslager, James Cutler, John Noonan, Thos. S. Lindsay, Mark Roe, James A. Braden, F. I. Reynolds, L. G. Fairbank, H. M. Bacon, F. L. Lamson, Wm. Metzler, E. E. Sattler, L. M. Latta, and M. A. Flynn.

Late in the autumn of 1898 a young man rather short of stature and wiry of physique, purchased 12 acres of ground and a ramshackle straw-board box factory in East Akron. He borrowed $3,500 and gave his personal notes for $9,000 more. Thus with capital of $12,500, F. A. Seiberling, one of the foremost and most romantic figures in the industry, launched the company to which he gave the name of Goodyear, to perpetuate the name and fame of Charles Goodyear, the Yankee inventor who had given to the world the discovery of the process of vulcanization. It was Dec. 8, 1898, that the boilers were fired and the Goodyear Company began to make solid carriage tires and pneumatic bicycle tires.

Mr. Seiberling had been associated, prior to his entry into the rubber business, with his father, J. F. Seiberling, in the J. F. Seiberling Company, owners of the Empire Mower and Reaper Works in Akron. Associated with him from the start in the Goodyear Company was his brother, Charles W. Seiberling. P. W. Litchfield, a New Englander, joined Goodyear in 1901 and built the company's first pneumatic automobile tire. He has since directed the construction of more

than 70,000,000 Goodyear tires. In 1903 G. M. Stadelman joined the Goodyear as manager of carriage tire sales, and later became sales manager and then vice president in charge of sales. He is now president of the company. Mr. Litchfield climbed rapidly in the organization to his present position of first vice president and factory manager.

After the actual production start of the little company on Dec. 8, 1898, the clear sailing was short lived. On Christmas day of the same year, Mr. Seiberling was notified that a decision of the United States District Court completely validated solid tire patent claims of a firm which had been making solid tires long before Seiberling entered the business. Seiberling immediately sought to secure manufacturing rights under the patent, but before this could be done the patentee had instituted infringement proceedings against him. Undaunted, the "Little Napoleon of the Rubber Industry"—for it was then that he first gained that appellation—launched into production of solid tires as vigorously as possible, and in four months had made such inroads into the business of the million dollar patentee concern that the latter suggested withdrawal of its suit if Seiberling would limit his production to $50,000 worth of tires annually and confine sales to orders from the patent owners.

Mr. Seiberling refused to sign the armistice, rejecting the compromise offer and redoubling his production effort. Soon he had a contract for $600,000 worth of solid tires. Finally the litigation came to a head and after tedious days of court hearing, the patent involved was declared null and void. Seiberling and Goodyear had won a notable victory—one of the most notable patent victories in the history of the rubber industry, and a victory that spelled expansion and prosperity for all Akron makers of solid tires.

The victory created one of the memorable events in Akron's history. All Akron rejoiced over Seiberling's successful resistance of the infringement suit. Bells were rung throughout the city. Whistles were tooted. It was not only a Goodyear victory—but an Akron victory and Akron citizens turned out en masse to celebrate. Goodyear subsequently weathered other financial storms and patent infringement suits, and became the largest rubber manufacturing concern in the world, Goodyear sales under Mr. Seiberling's leadership climbing to more than $168,000,000 in 1919 when Goodyear factories turned out 6,800,000 tires for automobiles, bicycles, motorcycles and trucks.

Mr. Seiberling continued as the company's president until 1921, when control of the company passed into the hands of financial interests.

In 1921 F. A. Seiberling and C. W. Seiberling stepped out and E. G. Wilmer of Milwaukee became the Goodyear president. Mr. Seiberling immediately started a new company, the Seiberling Rubber Company, many of his old Goodyear associates going with him in the new venture. Principal among these was I. R. Bailey, for years with the Diamond Company and also with Goodyear, who became the Seiberling vice president in charge of sales. He succumbed in 1923. In 1923 Mr. Wilmer became the Goodyear chairman and Mr. Stadelman was elevated to the presidency with Mr. Litchfield as first vice president and factory manager, F. K. Espenhain as vice president. Prominent in Goodyear affairs for years have been L. C. Rockhill, sales manager; C. A. Stillman, secretary; W. D. Shilts, assistant secretary; P. H. Hart, treasurer; William Stephens, general superintendent; and C. C. Slusser, factory staff manager.

The Goodyear factories in Akron consist of 80

buildings with over 100 acres of floor space. Sales of the Akron company in 1924 were $115,323,174.

Goodyear was the first Akron rubber company to enter the rubber plantation business, penetrating the jungles on the Island of Sumatra in the Far East in 1916 and establishing a 20,000 acre plantation which now has more than a million rubber trees under cultivation. Goodyear also transformed the sand dunes of the Salt River valley in Arizona into a fertile cotton plantation of 56,000 acres. Goodyear subsidiary and allied companies include the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Export Co.; the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company of California, operating at Los Angeles the largest tire factory on the Pacific Coast; the Goodyear Cotton Mills, Inc., operating cotton mills at Killingly, Conn.; Devon Mills, a big fabric plant at New Bedford, Mass.; the South West Cotton Company, the Goodyear-Zeppelin Corporation, and the Goodyear Rubber Plantations Co., in Sumatra.

Just as Goodyear was getting under way, Harvey S. Firestone acquired interests in the carriage tire department of an Akron carriage factory and in 1900 bought an old foundry building in South Akron and began the production of solid tires. The original payroll of the Firestone company contained 12 names. Today Firestone employees number into the many thousands with branches throughout the world and the company's factories in Akron represent one of the most completely equipped industrial institutions of the world. Mr. Firestone early asserted his leadership in the rubber industry. He aided in organizing the Rubber Association of America and served as its president in 1916 and 1917. The company's sales in 1910 were $7,500,000 as compared to $85,610,004 in 1924—a 12 fold increase in the last 14 years. With the outbreak of the World War, Firestone built a plant

for construction of balloons for the government. The company has since built in Akron one of the largest rim plants in the world, operated by The Firestone Steel Products Company.

The Firestone organization covers the entire world with branches, manufacturing subsidiaries, etc. Included in the Firestone subsidiary and allied companies are the Firestone Steel Products Co., of Akron, rim manufacturers; the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company of Maine, an export organization; The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, Ltd., of London, England, manufacturers of reclaimed rubber, and The Xylos Rubber Co. of Akron, also manufacturers of reclaimed rubber; The Oldfield Tire Co., of Akron, tire manufacturers; The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company of Canada, Ltd., operating large tire factories at Hamilton, Ontario; the Firestone-Apsley Rubber Co., of Hudson, Mass., manufacturers of rubber footwear; the Firestone Cotton Mills of Fall River, Mass.; and the Firestone Tire and Rubber Co., S. S. Ltd., of Singapore, a crude rubber buying organization.

Mr. Firestone was one of the first to see the need for concerted action upon the part of American rubber manufacturers in shaking off their almost total dependence upon Great Britain for their rubber and in 1922 and 1923 inaugurated the "America Should Grow Her Own Rubber" campaign which resulted in a $500,000 congressional appropriation to investigate the possibilities of growing rubber under American capital, in foreign countries. Mr. Firestone, continuing his campaign, has launched his own rubber growing project in Liberia and also is interested in a rubber growing movement in Florida.

When the Firestone company was organized, James Christy, Jr., became president with Harvey S. Firestone as treasurer, J. A. Swinehart as vice presi-

dent and Dr. L. E. Sisler as secretary. Two years later Will Christy succeeded James Christy as president and Mr. Firestone became general manager. The following year, 1903, Mr. Firestone became president and Will Christy became vice president. In 1905 S. G. Carkhuff became secretary and in 1911 James G. Robertson, now president of the Akron Chamber of Commerce, became treasurer. Vice presidents of the company have been J. A. Swinehart, Will Christy, Amos Miller, R. J. Firestone, John W. Thomas, A. G. Partridge and Thomas Clements. Present officers are Harvey S. Firestone, president; John W. Thomas, vice president; S. G. Carkhuff, secretary and J. J. Shea, treasurer. Al. Wegmiller, now the Firestone pumping station and club house engineer, was Mr. Firestone's first engineer. He is the only one of the original force still with the company. Two of the older Firestone employees still with the company are Miss V. M. Greer, now cashier, and Dan Goodenberger, now manager of the solid tire department, who have been with the company since 1904.

With the natural acceleration of the automobile business and the rapid development of the pneumatic tire, other rubber and tire companies were established in and near Akron. Those already established expanded rapidly and millions of dollars were spent for factory additions and new equipment.

Prior to 1900 practically all rubber came from the jungles of Brazil, although seeds of rubber trees had been transplanted from Brazil to the Kew Gardens in England in 1876 by Sir Henry Wickham, now known as the "Father of Plantation Rubber." This cultivation resulted in the establishment of the first rubber plantations in the Orient and in 1900 the plantations in the Far East gave their first yield of rubber

—four tons. By 1907 these plantation areas were yielding about 1,000 tons annually.

It was about this time that "King Rubber" began to wave his magic wand. He built new kingdoms over night, transformed wastes into thriving settlements and barren lands into beehives of industry. Akron gained the reputation of being the "fastest growing city in the United States." Rubber factories sprang up almost over night. Vast uncultivated areas of the Orient, once reeking with the stagnation of malaria breeding quagmires were transformed into wonderful rubber plantations and began to yield abundantly of nature's riches as gigantic oak, camphor and teak trees in the virgin jungles made way for long avenues of rubber trees. Desert stretches with their cacti, sage brush and alkali dust began to make way for fertile cotton plantations to provide cotton for the fabric which is so essential a part of the pneumatic tire.

The once virgin jungles of Sumatra, and the Malay states in the Far East became rich in their growth of the cultivated rubber tree, plantations spreading over millions of acres with thousands of sinewy Sumatran and Malayan coolies employed to collect the milky white juice of the rubber tree, coagulate it and prepare it for shipment to Akron's growing factories. In the sun blistered Salt River valley of Arizona, amid the sand dunes of Southern California and along the peaceful Nile mammoth cotton plantations developed while amid the peaceful environs of New England there sprang up many cotton and spinning mills to make the millions of yards of fabric required in tire building.

Plantation rubber production could scarcely keep apace of the demand, even this, Akron's centennial year, finding an actual rubber shortage despite the fact that there are today more than 4,000,000 acres

devoted to rubber plantations which this year alone will produce more than 400,000 tons of rubber.

Akron's rubber companies began to expand their ramifications, several of them establishing subsidiary manufacturing companies in foreign countries and in Canada, and locating branches throughout the entire world.

In 1901 Theodore E. Smith founded India Rubber Review, the only rubber journal ever published in Akron and today the recognized tire and rubber authority with world wide circulation. Mr. Smith transferred editorial and publishing offices to Akron, from Chicago, shortly after founding the magazine, and continued at its helm until 1920 when its control was acquired by Edward S. Babcox. The magazine is published monthly, going to all parts of the world. Mr. Babcox now is president and publisher of the India Rubber Review, with Ralph C. Busbey as vice president and editor; H. H. Harriman as associate editor; W. C. Doerler as secretary and business manager, and Miss H. L. Sanders, circulation manager.

It is of course impossible to recount the histories of rubber companies in Akron that have come and gone, the data herein contained being confined necessarily to tire and rubber companies in existence in Akron and its environs in this, Akron's centennial year. It is also impossible to enumerate all of Akron's contributions to the rubber industry. However, it must be stated that men who have been prominent in the rubber industry here have given to the world most of that which has contributed to the gerat expansion of the industry to its present status. F. A. Seiberling gave the tire industry the first practical tire building machinery which eliminated the hand method of building tires and greatly accelerated production. A. H. Marks developed one of the first success-

ful methods of reclaiming rubber. There are countless contributions to the industry such as the work of Dr. W. C. Geer, vice president of the Goodrich Company, in figuring prominently in the development of gas masks for use by the American Expeditionary Forces during the World War; the many tire inventions of J. A. Swinehart; the development of the modern day golf ball and the valuable contributions in this direction of John Gammeter of the B. F. Goodrich Company; the pioneering in aeronautics and the construction of lighter-than-air craft in Akron under the leadership of F. A. Seiberling and P. W. Litchfield of the Goodyear Company; the work of John F. Palmer, inventor of one of the first pneumatic bicycle tires ever produced, and inventor also of the cord tire; the pioneering work of Akron tire technicians in developing the first pneumatic tire for buses and trucks and the latest improvement in tire construction—the low air pressure or balloon tire. Akron owes its prestige as the home of "Silvertown" tires to the work of A. H. Marks during the days when the Diamond Rubber Company was at its peak, prior to its consolidation with Goodrich, for it was largely through the efforts of Mr. Marks that the Silvertown cord tire manufacturing rights were secured for $750,000 cash, by the Diamond Company.

The history of the cord tire, about which most of Akron's development has centered, is indeed interesting. At a bicycle show held in Philadelphia more than 35 years ago, J. F. Palmer, who later became famous in connection with tire construction, exhibited what then was called a puncture-proof bicycle tire. It was crude in construction but interesting in theory and Goodrich representatives became so impressed with it that they persuaded Mr. Palmer to come to Akron to further develop the tire. After a series of

experiments the new tire finally was brought out but the real success of the Palmer bicycle tire, however, was only achieved when Mr. Palmer conceived the idea of using parallel threads or cords in place of a woven fabric. Patents on this method were obtained early in 1893. The B. F. Goodrich Company was the exclusive manufacturer in the United States for this new Palmer tire but Mr. Palmer issued his patents in a number of foreign countries. In later years Mr. Palmer used the same cord principle in developing the first cord pneumatic tire for automobiles, a tire which rapidly is replacing the fabric tire.

With the advent of the automobile Christian Gray, then technical director of the India Rubber Co., and Thomas Sloper undertook to produce a clincher automobile tire, embodying the Palmer bicycle cord principle. Over a dozen patents were taken out by them on this construction, between 1904 and 1911. In 1909 the Diamond Rubber Company of Akron purchased the American rights under the patents, and the B. F. Goodrich Company acquired the same rights in 1912 by purchase of the Diamond Rubber Company.

One of the earlier rubber companies was the Star Rubber Company, founded in 1907 by S. E. Duff, its first president; Homer A. Hine, its first secretary, and J. W. Miller, the first treasurer. L. H. Firey became president in 1916 when the company launched actively in the tire manufacturing business, having previously made druggists' rubber sundries. Present officers are L. H. Firey, president; R. L. Robinson, vice president, and D. A. Grubb, vice president and sales manager; J. W. Dessecker, secretary, and R. G. Shirk, treasurer. The company now is capitalized at more than $1,000,000 and has capacity for 750 tubes and 600 tires a day.

The Mohawk Rubber Company, of Akron, was founded in 1913 by S. S. Miller, Francis Seiberling, J.

K. Williams, C. W. MacLaughlin, R. M. Pilmore and F. J. Mishler, with capital stock of $350,000. It took over the plant of the Stein Double Cushion Tire Co., and from an original production of 20 tires a day has built its output to 1500 tires and 2200 inner tubes daily. Sales in 1924 exceeded $3,413,000. Present officers are S. S. Miller, president and general manager; Francis Seiberling, vice president; R. E. Bloch, treasurer; H. H. McCloskey, secretary and comptroller and J. F. Jones, sales manager.

Two years before the founding of the Mohawk Company, Adam Duncan formed the American Tire & Rubber Company which was reorganized in 1916 as the American Rubber and Tire Company, with Fred H. Snyder as president. Upon Mr. Snyder's death early in 1924, his son Floyd C. Snyder succeeded to the presidency which office he now holds with J. T. Johnson as vice president and treasurer. The company devotes its activities principally to the manufacture of tires and tubes.

The General Tire & Rubber Company of Akron was the outgrowth of an accessory business established by William O'Neil in Kansas City. Deciding to enter the manufacture of tires, Mr. O'Neil transferred his business to Akron and the company was founded in 1916 with $200,000 capitalization. Original officers were M. O'Neil, (pioneer of Akron's department store merchants) president; Wm. O'Neil, vice president and general manager; Charles Herberich, treasurer; and W. E. Fouse, secretary. The first year's business was $219,000 as compared to more than $13,000,000 in sales in 1924. In 1924 M. O'Neil retired from the presidency and became chairman of the board. William O'Neil became president and general manager. Other present officers are C. J. Jahant, vice president; W. E. Fouse, vice president; Charles Herberich, treasurer;

T. F. O'Neil, secretary and W. J. Cahill, assistant secretary and treasurer.

The Kelly-Springfield Tire Company, whose main factory was for many years in Akron, was the outgrowth of the Rubber Tire Wheel Co., organized in 1895 by Edwin S. Kelly of Springfield, Ohio. In 1899 this company was taken over by the Consolidated Rubber Tire Company and in 1914 the name was changed to the Kelly-Springfield Tire Company. Although the company's main plant now is at Cumberland, Md., it operates its original Akron factory as its principal branch production center. Emerson McMillen was the first president, followed by Isaac L. Rice in 1900 and Van H. Cartmell in 1902. Mr. Cartmell was succeeded by A. B. Jones in 1921 and in 1923 Arnold L. Scheuer, present incumbent, became president. Samuel Woolner, Jr., now is chairman with Mr. Scheuer as president, Frederick A. Seaman as first vice president, Maurice Switzer, Thomas C. Marshall and Clarence A. Brown as vice presidents, C. P. Stewart-Sutherland as secretary, Herbert B. Dalapierre as treasurer and Milton Lachenbruch, as auditor.

J. M. Alderfer, P. C. Searles, D. A. Grubb and J. K. Williams were founders of the India Tire & Rubber Co., in 1916. Capitalized at $250,000, the company started production in February, 1918. Mr. Alderfer has served as president since incorporation. Mr. Searles, originally the secretary, now is secretary and treasurer. J. K. Williams has served as vice president from the start. As indicative of the company's rapid growth production now is at the rate of over 1200 tires daily. The company is capitalized at over $1,300,000 and in 1924 had sales exceeding $3,000,000.

The Swinehart Tire & Rubber Co., organized in 1904 by J. A. Swinehart, E. C. Swinehart, H. F. Siecrist, F. E. Ream and Henry Feuchter started with

capital of $100,000, manufacturing solid tires. Mr. Swinehart served as president and in 1905 sold to the company the property of the Rubber Specialty Co., on North Howard st., which he owned. The company expanded to handle production of pneumatic tires and in 1909 W. W. Wuchter became president and manager. T. F. Walsh assumed the presidency in 1921, the company adding a cushion tire line in that year. From sales of $115,000 in 1909 the company has grown rapidly, with 1924 sale exceeding $2,750,000. Present officers are T. F. Walsh, president; W. E. Weldon, vice president; C. O. Baugham, secretary and assistant treasurer, and R. A. May, treasurer.

In contiguous districts, in what is known as the Greater Akron Industrial zone, are numerous rubber and tire companies that have helped to make Akron the "Rubber Metropolis." One of the older of these is the Rubber Products Company at Barberton, incorporated in 1906 by William A. Johnston as president and treasurer; B. F. Tracy as vice president and G. C. Kohler as secretary. The company's present capital stock consists of $200,000 common and $100,000 preferred. It makes tube machine products, druggists' sundries, and molded specialties, T. G. Richards being vice president and general manager, and R. A. Miller secretary and treasurer.

In 1915 O. M. Mason and D. M. Mason formed the Mason Tire & Rubber Company at Kent. The former became president and the latter treasurer and general manager. In 1924 these two officers retired, W. A. Cluff becoming president and treasurer, with J. H. Diehl and C. H. Williams as vice presidents; and T. G. Graham as factory manager. Mason Company sales in 1924 were over $9,200,000.

In 1919 the Lambert Tire & Rubber Co., formed five years before in Portland, Oregon, by H. M. Lam-

bert, inventor of the special Lambert cushion tire, established its factory between Kenmore and Barberton. The company now is capitalized at $3,000,000. Present officers are H. M. Lambert, president; J. W. Coyle, D. E. Ramsey, John Wagner, G. K. Fargo and E. C. Eckert, vice presidents; John Hausam, secretary and treasurer and Guy M. Collette, general manager.

In 1921 F. A. Seiberling, upon his retirement from Goodyear, established the Seiberling Rubber Co., which acquired the factory of the former Portage Tire & Rubber Co., at Barberton. This company experienced phenomenal growth from its start, its sales mounting in three years' time to more than $7,000,000 a year. F. A. Seiberling is president with C. W. Seiberling, W. S. Wolfe and H. L. Post as vice presidents and W. E. Palmer, secretary. The latter for many years was with the Goodyear. C. W. Seiberling now is treasurer.

At Cuyahoga Falls, several rubber companies have sprung up. Principal among them is the Falls Rubber Company, organized in 1909 by William Sherbondy and Frank Nolte. M. J. O'Donnell joined the company in 1914 and became president the succeeding year, retiring from the presidency in May, 1925, when he was succeeded as president and treasurer by J. O. King. Other present officers include G. D. Kratz and M. J. O'Donnell, vice presidents; O. C. Nelson, secretary; W. P. Cline, assistant secretary and assistant treasurer; W. S. Campbell, sales manager, and F. H. Comey, general superintendent. The company's sales were nearly $3,000,000 in 1924.

The American Hard Rubber Company came into being in 1898 through consolidation of the India Rubber Comb Co., the Butler Hard Rubber Co., and the Goodrich Hard Rubber Co., establishing its factory in East Akron. Fritz Achelis was president from 1898 until his death

in December, 1921, when he was succeeded by Frederic G. Achelis. Other present officers are Wm. W. Weitling, vice president and Edwin E. Belcher, secretary and treasurer.

The Philadelphia Rubber Works Company was formed in 1910 as a merger of the Philadelphia Rubber Works which had been organized in 1880, and the Alkali Rubber Co., which was started in 1904. J. K. Mitchell has been president since 1910 with other present officers including J. S. Lowman, first vice president and E. K. Monnington, secretary and treasurer. The company manufactures reclaimed rubber.

Data available on other rubber companies in the Akron district follow:

Good Rubber Co., formed 1923; manufacturers of toy balloons and rubber novelties. Present officers, W. D. Good, president and general manager; S. M. Good, vice president; J. B. Good, secretary, and E. K. Good, treasurer. Capitalized at $10,000.

Independent Rubber Co., incorporated 1911 by S. G. Rogers, A. J. Rowley, G. A. Sirdefield and R. H. Nesbitt to manufacture rubber goods. Present officers: C. C. McCue, president; W. H. K. Rose, vice president; H. G. Goodwin, secretary and treasurer.

Summit Rubber Co., incorporated in 1922 for $125,000, although established in 1917 by M. Nobil and Charles Schwartz. Present officers: M. Nobil, president; Charles Schwartz, treasurer and general manager; G. B. Nobil, secretary.

The Western Reserve Rubber Co., manufacturers of rubber toy balloons was incorporated in 1915 with Arthur P. Witten as president. Authorized capital, $50,000. George E. Hall is secretary and treasurer, and Mr. Witten president.

The Sun Rubber Co., of Barberton, manufacturers of rubber sundries, represents the merger of the Mar-

lanite Co., of Barberton and the Sumatra Rubber Co., of Salem. Officers are J. T. McLane, president; T. W. Smith, vice president and sales manager; M. S. Lower, vice president, and general manager and secretary, and E. B. Billick, treasurer. The company is capitalized at $200,000.

The Marathon Rubber Co., of Akron, represents a recent reorganization of the original Marathon Company. C. C. Osmun is president; C. E. Falor, vice president and factory manager.

The Eclat Rubber Co., of Cuyahoga Falls was started in 1919 by W. H. Stilwell, now president, to manufacture mechanical rubber goods. The company is capitalized at $250,000. Other present officers are C. C. Crumrine, vice president; E. F. Ast, treasurer and C. E. Reiss, secretary.

The Trump Bros. Rubber Co., tire and mechanical goods manufacturers, started in 1921 with $200,000 capital stock. Officers are E. H. Trump, president, and R. M. Trump, secretary and treasurer.

Anderson Rubber Co., (not incorporated) was established by S. W. Anderson in 1910, as manufacturer and distributor of balloon toys and rubber novelties.

The Lincoln Rubber Co., organized in 1914 at Barberton, for the manufacture of rubber sundries, surgeons' supplies, etc., capitalized at $175,000 of which $62,660 has been issued. The management is under Allyn R. McCoy, secretary and treasurer, and E. E. McNeely, auditor. Directors are Allyn R. McCoy, Frank McCoy, E. E. McNeely, Nora McCoy and John Hadfield.

The Pyramid Rubber Specialty Company, founded in 1920 and capitalized at $25,000 for the manufacture of rubber sundries and surgical supplies. L. N. Oberlin and R. C. Shaw were the first executives. Present officers include R. M. Pillmore, president; W. W. Mc

Intosh, vice president; W. B. McIntosh, secretary, and A. C. Bame, treasurer and manager.

The Clinton Rubber Company, organized in February, 1925, to make rubber products. Officers are Allyn R. McCoy, president; John A. Smith, vice president; E. E. McNeely, secretary; L. N. Oberlin, treasurer, and T. S. Briggle, factory superintendent.

The Miles Tire & Rubber Co., formed in 1923 to act as a selling organization handling products of the Amazon and Monarch Rubber Companies. Officers are R. P. Johnson, president and treasurer; P. G. Himmelright, vice president and J. S. Baruch, secretary.

The Akron Rubber Reclaiming Co., formed in 1925 with B. O. Etling as president; C. E. Bishop and Wm. Welch as vice presidents and W. H. Hart as secretary.

The Akron Rapatire Company, organized in 1924 with Fred F. Feldhaus as president and R. H. Noah as secretary and treasurer, manufacturers of tire wrapping machines.

Mention should be made of companies, not essentially rubber manufacturers, who supply the industry either with materials, technical service or machinery. Among these are the following:

The Rubber Service Laboratories Co., incorporated in 1921 for $100,500 as manufacturers of products connected with the rubber industry, accelerator specialists, laboratory experts, etc. R. C. Hartong was the first president. The company maintains laboratories in Akron while its manufacturing site is at Nitro, W. Va. Present officers include C. N. Hand, president and factory manager; E. J. Smail, vice president and sales manager; C. O. North, secretary and treasurer, and H. D. Hughes, assistant secretary and assistant treasurer.

The Leo Meyer Co., organized by Leo Meyer in

1915. Mr. Meyer served as president until 1920. Albert Buxbaum now is president with J. W. Bent, secretary. The company deals in scrap rubber, tires and tubes and makes patches and reliners for repairing of tires.

H. Muehlstein & Co., Inc., importers and dealers in crude and scrap rubber, was founded in 1911. Present officers are H. Muehlstein, president; C. Muehlstein, vice president and J. Muehlstein, secretary and treasurer.

The centering of the rubber industry in Akron has given rise to many manufacturers of rubber and tire building machinery. Among these companies are the following:

The Akron Rubber Mold & Machine Co., established in 1909 by Stanley Harris who now is president and general manager and G. F. Hobach, now secretary and treasurer. W. E. Wilson is vice president and assistant general manager.

The Adamson Machine Co., founded in 1892 by A. Adamson, now the president, and John Denmead. The business was incorporated in 1907 for $500,000. W. E. Slabaugh is vice president and R. B. Koontz is secretary and treasurer.

The Williams Foundry & Machine Co., founded in 1888 by J. K. Williams who served as president until 1918, resuming the presidency in 1924. F. E. Holcomb was president from 1918 to 1924. Present officers include J. K. Williams, president; H. L. Williams, vice president and treasurer; F. C. Vandergrift, secretary and treasurer.

The Vaughn Machinery Co., of Cuyahoga Falls, traces its origin back to a partnership in 1856, James A. Vaughn entering the business in 1861. Present officers are C. W. Vaughn, president; L. A. Vaughn,

vice president, treasurer and general manager, and A. T. Yungman, secretary.

The Biggs Boiler Works Co., founded in 1887 by Lester Briggs and reorganized under the present name in 1900. Present officers, B. R. Barder, president; F. G. Sherbondy, secretary and treasurer; and G. J. Seeger, vice president.

The India Machine & Rubber Mold Co., organized in 1920 by W. C. Wenk and L. T. Cline. Present officers, R. D. McDowell, president; D. N. Rosen, vice president; R. E. Baer, secretary and George T. Williams, treasurer and general manager.

The Wellman-Seaver-Morgan Co., founded in 1903 with S. T. Wellman as first president. Present officers, Edwin S. Church, president; George W. Burrell, vice president and general manager; N. R. Fairlamb, secretary and treasurer; W. G. Hildebran, assistant secretary.

East Akron Machine Co., founded in 1918 by Frank F. Seidel, John T. Seidel and Albert R. Miller. Present officers are the same.

Electric Motor and Repair Co., founded in 1916 by S. W. Sweet, W. A. Heffelman and R. S. Whitright. Present officers, S. W. Sweet, president; Lee Whitright, vice president; W. A. Heffelman, treasurer and general manager, and H. S. Kish, secretary.

The Akron Standard Mold Co., organized in 1918 with $200,000 capitalization, by A. J. Fleiter. Officers now are Allen F. Ayers, president; A. J. Fleiter, vice president and general manager and C. W. McLaughlin, secretary and treasurer.

The Franz Foundry and Machine Company, organized in 1919 by C. Franz, Sr., one of the founders of the Williams Foundry & Machine Co., in 1901. Mr. Franz succumbed in April, 1925. His son, C. W. Franz, Jr., now is in charge of the business.

The Akron Gear and Engineering Co., organized in 1912. Capitalized at $150,000. Present officers are J. H. Vance, president; N. G. Nelson, secretary and treasurer, and T. A. Seacrist, general manager.

The Akron Industrial Salvage Company, founded in 1918 by George W. Sherman, as a war conservation movement, handles the disposal of all types of by-products and waste materials of Akron's rubber factories. The company has $62,000 in common stock and $11,000 preferred stock. Officers are George W. Sherman, president, treasurer and general manager; A. Peterson, vice president, and L. E. Pierson, secretary and assistant manager.

Other suppliers of the rubber industry, located in or near Akron, include the Kuhlke Machine Company, the Akron Equipment Company, the McNeil Boiler Company, the Akron Machine Mold, Tool & Die Company, the Ohio Gear and Engineering Company, the National Sulphur Company, etc.

Akron has achieved world renown not alone as the rubber and tire manufacturing center of the world, but also through her pioneering in aeronautics for Akron had the first aeronautical factory in the United States, and built the first American-made free balloons and dirigibles. As far back as 1911 when lighter-than-air craft navigation was considered impracticable, Akron exploited this field courageously and pioneered the development of the free balloon. Two years later Akron made balloons achieved success, winning the national balloon races at Kansas City. Ralph Upson and R. A. D. Preston whose names have been linked with America's aeronautical development almost from its inception, then brought fame to America and to Akron, winning for America for the first time the James Gordon Bennett international balloon race trophy at Paris. In 1916 and 1919 Akron made balloons

again won the national races while in 1924 and 1925 W. T. Van Orman, pilot, and C. K. Wollam, aide, flying the free balloon the "Goodyear III" won the national balloon races and represented America in the international races abroad.

When America entered the World War Akron played a prominent part in aeronautics, building for the government many free balloons, observation kite balloons and dirigibles. Goodyear aided in the establishment of an aviation training field near the city. Goodrich, Miller, Firestone, Goodyear and other Akron companies turned over much of their plant equipment for the manufacture of balloon cloth and dirigibles. The government centered its work of training air pilots in Akron, building huge barracks at Wingfoot Lake and conducting over 750 test dirigible flights and over 1200 training flights in balloons. Akron-made dirigibles had achieved success before the war, and many were made for the Army and Navy, Ralph Upson and Herman Kraft figuring prominently in the design of new dirigibles. Later the Goodyear factories turned out the 20 immense gas ballonets for the rigid dirigible, the Shenandoah.

In 1924 Goodyear officials secured the rights for America, to the Zeppelin dirigible patents, and formed the Goodyear-Zeppelin Corporation, bringing to Akron officials of the Zeppelin factories from Friederichshafen, Germany, and a corps of expert Zeppelin builders. These men now are designing plans for huge Zeppelins a thousand feet long, which will be built in Akron.

Akron has always been considered, especially with respect to labor in the rubber industry, an "open shop" city. It has long had a nation-wide reputation of being a "good wage" town where working conditions

also were much more favorable than in cities boasting of other industries.

Only one important effort was ever made to unionize workers in the rubber manufacturing plants and the effort was a short-lived failure.

It was in February, 1913, that labor leaders, branded widely at the time as I. W. W. agitators, established headquarters on South High st., and began to distribute union propaganda. Efforts were centralized at the larger factories including Goodrich, Firestone and Goodyear.

With respect to efforts at "picketing" factory entrances and extending their efforts to prevent strike-breakers from being hired, the former factory came in for the greatest attention due to the factory being located nearer the central part of the city and its proximity to Main st.

Much feeling was aroused by the visiting labor workers. Police found it necessary to recruit large forces of citizen police officers to supplement the regular forces. Bankers, merchants, ministers and men prominent in various phases of civic endeavor took their turns as guard sentinels at places in the city where it was thought dangerous demonstrations might occur.

About 10,000 men were estimated to have left their work at one time during the walkout. Many of these were not in sympathy with the strike move but remained at home through fear of bodily harm. Many parades were held by the strike leaders and sporadic clashes between police and strikers resulted, without, however, serious results.

The strike was not backed by public sympathy and the effort died a sudden and natural death after about six weeks.

One of the most interesting spans in Akron's his-

tory, was the period from 1910 to 1920 which marked the most rapid expansion of the rubber industry and earned for Akron the name of "The fastest growing city in the United States." Between those years the city's population increased more than three-fold, reaching 208,000 under the 1920 census. The boom period reached its peak of acceleration between 1918 and 1920. Thousands of men seeking employment in rubber factories here where wages were high, literally poured into the city. Rubber companies could not make tires fast enough. They could not build additions fast enough. They could not hire men fast enough. Seldom has any city in the world's history experienced such a condition of expansion as that which held Akron in its throes in 1919 and 1920. Civic development could not keep pace with population growth. A housing shortage was precipitated upon the city. Attics and basements were converted into sleeping quarters for the city's army of homeless rubber workers. Manufacturers hastily established subdivisions and feverishly built homes for their workers.

The rubber factories worked incessantly—24 hours every day. Men were given bonuses to speed their work. The city's streets were clogged with men. There was as much activity all hours of the night as during the day, with thousands of men going to and from work. Hundreds of deaf mutes flocked to the city for work in the rubber shops, forming the largest colony of "Silents" in America.

Then came the precipitate slump late in 1920; the sudden falling off of tire sales; vast overproduction; the piling up of immense inventories of finished goods that could not be moved and that tied up millions of dollars of working capital; the tightening of credit. The depression caught many manufacturers with contractual obligations for future deliveries of rubber and

cotton at peak prices even though the prices of these raw materials had dropped to one-third of the peak levels.

Employment in rubber shops here which climbed to more than 75,000 men and women in June of 1920, dropped to less than 20,000 by December of the same year. There was a tremendous exodus of rubber workers. The low ebb of the slump came late in 1920 and early in 1921 but even after general business had begun to recover, Akron could not quickly regain its breath. The city's recovery thus was slow. The atmosphere was filled with foreboding and uncertainty. Courageously, however, Akron manufacturers began to shape their "come back." They worked courageously and gradually reestablished their trade channels, and liquidated inventories as rapidly as possible. From late in 1921 up to the present time Akron's growth has been steady and healthy, with a more stable class of labor employed, with manufacturers less reckless.

Akron's centennial year finds the city back to the old peak levels of production and prosperity—but without the aspect of a boom period. It finds the rubber industry in Akron economically sound with all companies prospering and growing. Sales of Akron's rubber companies are expected to exceed half a billion dollars in 1925. They were $387,825,922 in 1924 upon which sales revenues were earned net profits of $33,832,003, which indicates the industry's present stability.

The balloon tire, pioneered in 1923 and 1924 by Akron companies, ranks as the city's latest contribution to the transportation of the world,—a contribution which has virtually revolutionized motor vehicle transportation.

And thus we find the Akron of today a city whose

rubber products are indispensable to mankind, and necessary to the progress of civilization. In every phase of life and business and industry we find Akron made rubber products performing essential service. From rubber bands to huge conveyor belts and transmission belts found in factories, cereal mills and mines; from the tiniest of rubber washers, to giant pneumatic and solid tires; from rubber sheeting for the surgical operating room to the immense silken rubberized hulls of the giant Shenandoah; from the rubber insulation of telegraph and cable wires, and electric light wires, to the rubber panels which harness the electrical energy that makes possible the radio; from the small lengths of air brake and steam hose couplings connecting the coaches of every railroad train in the world, to the millions of feet of hose used by fire departments everywhere, and from sundry rubber commodities to toy balloons and rubber balls, Akron products are serving mankind. The world walks on rubber. It motors on rubber.

Today we find more than 30,000 different articles made out of rubber. Yet experts agree that the potentialities of rubber are as yet virtually unknown. Which indicates Akron's potentialities. For Akron a population of half a million assuredly is in the offing. That the rubber industry in Akron will double its present size in the next ten years, is a conservative prediction certain of realization.

Akron's Contribution to Dental Surgery

By Herbert W. Barton, D. D. S.

DENTISTRY has been practiced in Akron from its earliest days but authentic data of its beginning is lacking. The extracting of teeth was taken care of by all the early physicians, using the famous "Turn-Key" until the forcep was invented. Antiseptic methods being unknown, the advantages of compressed air, the use of electricity and the replacement of teeth by crowns and bridges being yet to be developed, the practice of dentistry was not the complicated profession it is at the present day.

The Akron City Directory of 1871 contains the names of five men as being practicing dentists:—Dr. J. H. Peterson, Dr. Mason Chapman, Dr. L. D. Stewart, Dr. J. M. Segur and Dr. L. G. Thorpe.

Dr. Peterson started his dental practice in 1854. Dr. Chapman in 1865 purchased the dental office of Dr. C. H. Bolles, who had practiced here for a number of years previously.

In 1875 Dr. John W. Lyder, father of Dr. Fred H. Lyder, moved to Akron from Alliance, O., and started in practice, enjoying a long life in his work and retiring in 1909, three years before his death.

In 1876 Dr. Oscar E. Brownell, father of the music dealer, and one time ball player, O. G. Brownell, opened a dental office and continued a practice lasting until his death in 1888.

The Summit County Dental Society that is in active existence today, is the outgrowth of an organization started in 1887 by Drs. J. W. Lyder, Peterson, Stewart, Chapman and Thorpe. The original society apparently

faded away and was revived in 1891 by these men and also Dr. F. H. Lyder, J. W. Hillman, Frank Knowlton, F. M. Chamberlain, G. B. Williamson, L. T. Brown, C. L. Brockway and J. H. Laney. This society has had successful monthly meetings since that time, discussing surgical and operative work of interest to the profession, thus enabling its members to learn of and discuss with professional brothers the new things arising in dentistry.

The Summit County Dental Society of 1925 has 75 members in Akron from among a total of 110 dentists in the city. The members of the dental profession of Akron are proud of the achievement of their predecessors and dentistry, as practiced in Akron, is on a high plane, comparing most favorably with other and larger cities. All the specialties of dentistry carried on in any city are represented in Akron and Akron's several Industrial Dental Clinics show the city to be in the forefront, in the care of the teeth.

In 1911 fifteen of Akron's dentists volunteered to give one-half day a week each for half a year to the public school children. The recipients of this dental attention were to be named by teachers and nurses in the schools who saw that the parents of the children would not or could not have them cared for in the regular way. This work was faithfully done by these fifteen dentists, but funds could not be found for a dentist to be employed regularly in the schools until January, 1923, when Dr. D. E. Chase of Warren, O., was brought to Akron and with the assistance of one nurse started the present Public School Dental Clinic. This work consists of the examining each year of the teeth of all school children in the city up to the eighth grade. Emergency relief is given all children and those whose parents cannot afford to pay for regular dental service are entirely taken care of in this one clinic. Lantern-slide pictures on the care of

teeth and prevention of decay, chalk-talks on the same and lectures on foods, the brushing of the teeth, and the advantages of cleanliness in the mouth are given by the school dentist to the pupils of all grades up to the high school age. With a splendid dental infirmary equipped by the board of education, in the Perkins school building, much good has been accomplished.

Because of a problem confronting an Akron corporation in 1896, this city was probably a pioneer in using dentistry in industry. Phosphorus at that time was considered essential in the making of matches. The Diamond Match Company was having considerable trouble with poisoning from phosphorus, a disease called Phospho-Necrosis attacking the workers in the factory so severely that it would sometimes cause the loss of the whole or part of the jaw bone.

Ohio C. Barber, president of the Diamond Match company, appreciating through medical assistance that prevention was better than cure, reasoned that as the phosphorus seemed to enter the jaws through diseased teeth and gums, it would be better to keep the mouths of the employees in a more healthy condition. Accordingly in 1897 it was decided by the match company to employ a dentist whose entire time was to be used in examining mouths and referring needed work to dentists who would restore them to health before Phopho-Necrosis had set in.

Dr. L. D. Stewart was first chosen for this industrial dentistry in 1897. Very likely this was the first instance of such employment in any city in the country. Dr. Stewart carried on this work until his death in 1900, when Dr. Frank Knowlton took over the same preventive dentistry, making regular trips to the company's branch factories in other cities.

These trips were made regularly until Dr. Knowlton's death in 1913, when Dr. B. C. Chandler succeeded him and carried on these examinations for a year and a half.

By this time the match factory chemists were experimenting with a match-head explosive without the dangerous phosphorus in it, and when this safe formula was worked out, Phospho-Necrosis was no longer a menace to the employees and the dentist was no longer needed.

In 1915 the B. F. Goodrich Company established a clinic in their factory where all kinds of dentistry were carried on. This was the second organization in the United States to have a department of this kind.

Edwin C. Shaw of this company, who had been studying the question of the health of employees, had previously seen the need of a medical clinic in the factory. Putting in this clinic showed wonderful results and demonstrated that health and efficiency worked together; that a worker must be healthy to be happy and that the early diagnosis of disease would often prevent, by medical examination in the factory, at no cost to the employee, a possible sickness that must mean much loss of time or possibly the life of the employee.

Naturally the care of the teeth was the next step and Mr. Shaw, in adding a dental department to the medical clinic, made the next move in caring for the health of the employees. Dr. C. E. Smith was placed in charge in 1915 and at one time seven dentists and six nurses were at work.

The advantage of having a dentist in the factory to care for the employees was seen by the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company and by the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company and both have had clinics for a number of years.

An Akron man, Dr. Henry S. Upson, son of the Hon. Wm. H. Upson, made contributions to medicine and dentistry that revolutionized the previous methods of diagnosis and established a relationship between these two professions that has grown closer and closer since his discoveries. Even before 1907, while residing and practicing medicine in Cleveland, O., but visiting, in his capacity as

specialist in nervous diseases, the various institutions and asylums of Northern Ohio, Dr. Upson was drawn to the conclusions that inspired his theories and experiments that are now accepted as common facts in the relation of diseases of the teeth to general health. In 1907 he began to frame up his conclusions on paper, and in 1908 published them in his book, "Insomnia and Nerve Strain." In this work he was a pioneer in the assertion now so fully accepted, but at that time almost ridiculed by the medical and dental professions, that diseased teeth could be the cause of such a list of troubles as are now attributed to them. Dr. Upson established his conclusions through the use of the X-Ray which in 1907 was first proving its valuable assistance to the dentist.

Dr. Upson's claims and theories of the necessity of knowing all about the condition of the teeth in relation to the causes of disease, had a great influence in making the use of the X-Ray machine the connecting link between the present day physician and the dental surgeon. In appreciation of his study and achievement, friends and admirers of Dr. Upson started the formation of "The Henry S. Upson Foundation" in Philadelphia, Penn. The completion of this great honor was halted by the "World War."

Akron has also had a prominent place in the manufacture of products used in dentistry. The 1895 catalogues of the B. F. Goodrich company record that dental plate-rubber, dental-dam, dental bulbs and plaster bowls, anaesthesia gas-bags and the various types of rubber tubing used by dentists were made even at that time. These products are shipped by the Goodrich company to every country of the world. This company carried on extensive experiments in 1908 in the compounding and coloring of rubber to be used by dentists in the making of plates for artificial teeth.

Akron furnished its proper quota of dentists for the

army in the call of 1917. The following men left their practices and all fortunately returned to resume them:—Drs. J. T. Conners, E. D. Smith, G. C. Timmis, W. E. Schoenweiss, W. A. Park, R. O. Bowers, J. G. Timborus, H. G. Haas, and H. W. Barton.

Of this number, Drs. Geo. C. Timmis and W. E. Schoenweiss were the only Akron dentists to be sent to France.

Music, Art, Books

By Dean A. I. Spanton

AN INDUSTRIAL city is likely to receive scant credit when interest in things literary and artistic is under discussion. To many people Chicago suggests nothing but pork and graft, and Cincinnati is synonymous with beer and political corruption. Yet Chicago has its Art Institute, its University, and its Grand Opera, and Cincinnati its Conservatory.

Akron's industrial development has been so remarkable as to make her a special target for this sort of criticism. Repeatedly she has been referred to as a place where money, and nothing else, counts—an overgrown village without semblance of culture—an expression of only the more sordid side of modern commercial life. Yet from her earliest days Akron has always had citizens who were deeply interested in the finer things; in music, art, books, and whatever contributes to intellectual culture and esthetic life.

Music

The organization that has done most for the appreciation and development of music in Akron is the Tuesday Musical Club. It was organized in November, 1887, as the Tuesday Afternoon Club, by Mrs. George Baker, Miss Ione Edgerton, Mrs. Lucius C. Miles, Mrs. Edward P. Otis, Miss Francis Robinson (Mrs. Frank Adams), Mrs. A. T. Saunders, Mrs. F. A. Seiberling, and five other young women. The membership in-

For much of the material used in this chapter I am indebted to the kindness of others: to Professor O. E. Olin's excellent "Akron and Environs" for the history of the Tuesday Musical Club and the Liedertafel; to A. T. Saunders and T. D. Brown for information on art and artists; to Miss May Morrison for data on the founding of the Art Institute; to Miss Louise E. Grant for facts concerning books and authors; and to Miss Maude Herndon for the history of the Akron Public Library.—A. I. S.

creased rapidly and soon a chorus of thirty was formed with Mrs. Baker as director.

In 1893 Miss Helen Storer (Mrs. Winfred B. Collins) became director. Under her inspiring and efficient leadership the organization grew rapidly in influence and popularity. Splendid concerts were given by the club, and the best artists and orchestras in the country were brought to Akron. Miss Storer was director seven years. During her incumbency the name was changed to the Tuesday Musical Club, men were admitted to membership, and the policy of having both an afternoon Study Section and an evening Mixed Chorus was adopted.

Prominent among the conductors who succeeded Miss Storer were Professor George W. Andrews of Oberlin, Professor Adolph Liesegang and Albert Rees Davis of Cleveland, H. Evan Williams, Earl Killeen. In recent years the Evening Chorus has been discontinued, largely because the purpose of the club, to arouse interest in chorus work throughout the city, had been realized, as is evidenced by the large number of excellent Church choirs and other chorus groups in Akron today.

A leading event in the history of the chorus was its victory at the Canton Eisteddfod, July 4, 1906. H. Evan Williams trained the chorus, with the result that the Akron organization won first place over nine competitors and was awarded the prize of $600 amid the greatest enthusiasm of an audience of more than five thousand people.

The splendid work done by the Tuesday Musical Club in finding and fostering musical talent in Akron, and in bringing the best music from outside for the delight and instruction of Akron music-lovers, cannot be overestimated. The concerts and lecture recitals of the afternoon Study Section have given an unusual

opportunity to local musicians for both expression and training. For years the concerts of the evening chorus offered some of the finest works of the great masters, with the best orchestras and soloists in the country to assist. In addition, year after year the club has offered series of concerts by outside talent, in which have appeared the greatest artists in every field of music and the best orchestras and other musical organizations that could be secured. In 1896 the club gave $500 for the beginning of a music library at the Akron Public Library. A significant event in connection with the recent celebration of Music Week was the opening of the new music room on the second floor of the Library, in which the music purchased from this gift, and considerably augmented since from other sources, has been assembled.

The club has had the following presidents: Mrs. George Baker, Miss Helen Storer (Mrs. Winfred B. Collins), Mrs. Harry Houghton, Miss Harriet Parsons, Mrs. J. H. Andrews, Mrs. F. A. Seiberling, Mrs. E. P. Otis, Mrs. Katherine Bruot, Mrs. A. E. Heintselman, Miss Ella Bigelow, Mrs. T. S. Eichelberger, Mrs. W. H. Collins, Mrs. D. S. Bowman.

The following have been elected honorary members: Mrs. F. A. Seiberling, Miss Katherine Parsons, Mrs. Winfred B. Collins, Professor N. L. Glover, H. Evan Williams, Mrs. E. P. Otis, Professor Francesco B. DeLeone.

The Tuesday Musical Club, however, was not Akron's first musical organization. That honor belongs to the Liedertafel, a society which for seventy years has been a leading influence in the community's musical life. On February 3, 1855, thirteen music-loving Germans met at Fink's Hall, corner of Mill and Howard sts., to organize a male chorus. D. Umstatter was chosen president; Carl F. Kolbe, secretary; Henry

Fischer, treasurer; and William Carl, director. During its first twenty-five years the club held meetings in various places. In 1880 it built, at a cost of $10,000, its first "home." Since 1914 the headquarters of the club have been on East Exchange st., but already work has begun on a new Liedertafel Hall at the corner of East Exchange and Carroll sts.

Foremost among Akron singers stands H. Evan Williams. Of humble origin and with little education in boyhood, by sheer musical ability he made for himself a place among the world's leading tenors. Had Akron made no other contribution to the world of music, her gift of Evan Williams would in itself be sufficient to crown her with glory. Evan Williams was an artist of the highest order. With his wonderful voice he had a no less wonderful power of interpretation. Alike in oratorio, in grand opera, and in the simple melodies that everybody loves, he was supreme. The memory of a Williams concert is to its fortunate possessor a perpetual delight. The sudden and tragic death of this gifted singer was an irreparable loss, not to Akron alone, but to lovers of song the world over.

As Evan Williams was first among Akron singers, so Francesco DeLeone stands foremost among her composers. The premiere performance of his opera "Alglala" in the Armory, May 23, 1924, was an event of national significance. From far and wide came musicians, musical critics, and leaders of musical organizations to see something unique—a grand opera in English, with an American subject, by an American composer. In recognition of his excellent work, Mr. DeLeone was awarded a gold medal by the National Federation of Music Clubs. He was also made a Chevalier of the Crown of Italy, was elected to membership in the Sons of Italy, and was honored in vari-

ous other ways. Fortune Gallo, manager of the San Carlo Opera Company, has recently organized the American Opera Company for the one purpose of presenting "Alglala" during 1925-26. This will be the first time an American opera has been presented by an all-American company. Still greater honor is in store for Mr. DeLeone, and for Akron through his achievements, as he is at work on two other operas, one in English and one in Italian.

In years of continuous organization, extended activities and fame the Eighth Regiment Band of Akron has a noteworthy record. In personnel it largely succeeded Babcock's Band, the City Band and, in later years, The Great Western. The latter, under leadership of George L. Humphrey and, in after years, Adam Ranck, long had a conspicuous place. The Eighth Regiment Band was organized in 1880 as unit of the Eighth regiment of the Ohio National Guard. Since 1887 it has been under direction of W. R. Palmer, and has appeared upon many great occasions in near and distant parts of the United States and Canada. The band went with "The President's Own" Eighth Regiment to Cuba in the Spanish-American War. As the American forces marched into Santiago, upon the surrender of the Spanish, it was to the music of this notable band, one selection particularly remembered by some of the Akron soldiers being, "There'll Be a Hot Time in The Old Town Tonight." Other local bands of the present time are the Akron Ladies' Band and the Overseas Band, besides various lodge and school bands.

Any account of music in Akron would be inadequate without grateful recognition of the generous patronage of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Seiberling. Keenly interested in every musical activity, they have been unfailing in their encouragement and practical aid to

all movements for better music. No Akronian of musical promise, with a real ambition to succeed, has turned to them in vain. Nor should we fail to mention the excellent work done in the public schools. Did space permit, it would be a pleasure to name many who have helped in this work; it must suffice, however, to mention Professor N. L. Glover and his long years of service, and the efficient work in recent years of his daughter, Miss Nellie Glover.

ART AND LETTERS

As far back as the early seventies Akron had a resident artist—Rufus Wright, painter of portraits and genre. One of his best and best-known genre pictures was "The Heathen Chinee," an interpretation of Bret Harte's well-known poem of that name. When the Academy of Music burned down in 1878, it was Rufus Wright who painted the drop curtain and the entire scenery for the new building. One of the earliest teachers of painting in Akron was a Mrs. Bronson. She lived here in the late seventies, and was especially interested in landscape painting.

An early effort for the promotion of the study and appreciation of art was made about 1880-1881, with Mrs. J. A. Kohler (Fannie Kohler, nee Coburn) as the leading spirit. She was the center of a little group that met in the studio of A. T. Saunders. While there was no formal organization, there were real cooperation and mutual encouragement.

In 1888, upon his return from a period of study with W. M. Chase in New York, A. T. Saunders organized an art club which was active for several years, meeting weekly in his studio, the advanced members drawing from life, and others from casts and still life. At this time the Werner Lithographic Company had on its staff several skilled photographers, some of them

direct from German lithographic companies, and these formed the larger part of the group.

Somewhat later, under the leadership of Joseph S. Benner, the Akron Art Club was formed. This was a changing group, usually numbering from nine to twelve. It lasted several years, at least to 1903-4, meeting in various places—in A. T. Saunders' studio, over Coggswell's picture store on South Howard st., and elsewhere. The last meeting place of the club was the art studio at Buchtel College. Among those who formed the group at this time were Joseph Benner, A. T. Saunders, T. D. Brown, Mrs. Isham Allen, and Miss May Sanford (Mrs. Hunt), teacher of art in Buchtel College.

In 1907-8 several meetings of art enthusiasts were held at the home of Miss Margaret Miller on East Market st. The attendance sometimes reached fifty or sixty. While many who came cared only for the theory, others were interested in sketching or painting, and went frequently on outings when the weather was pleasant.

In 1915 a group of twenty Akron artists under the leadership of Herbert Atkins and Kenneth Nunamaker, formed the latest "Akron Art Club." Meetings were held each week, and one afternoon a month was given to sketching. During the Great War the club did not function, but became active again when the war was over and changed its name from the Akron Art Club to the Akron Fine Arts Club. The idea of an art institute for our city originated with this club, and it is especially to this organization and to Mr. E. C. Shaw that credit should be given for the present Akron Art Institute.

A significant figure in the eighties and nineties was Louis Ransom. T. D. Brown, for many years a leading Akron artist, says, "Ransom was undoubtedly the

outstanding artist here in those days. His portrait of General Grant was one of the finest portraits of Grant ever painted. Another unusually fine portrait was his John Brown, which he presented to Oberlin in appreciation of the work of Oberlin in anti-slavery days. His Fire Alarm was a picture of wonderful action and power. Ransom chose large themes, and treated them in a great way. His work was never appreciated as it deserved. Mr. Ransom is still living, at the age of ninety-four, with his son, Eugene, in Cuyahoga Falls.

Among Akron artists who have achieved distinction are Lucius Hitchcock, for a time head of the Buffalo Art School, of national reputation as an illustrator; Frank Werner, portrait painter, now of Chicago; Donald Gardner, now of New York, who has been very successful in commercial art; and Kenneth Nunamaker, the most promising of the younger group. Mr. Nunamaker has sacrificed everything for his art. And his reward has come. One or more of his pictures are sure to be found in any important exhibit of American art. This year a Nunamaker picture is one of the small group representative of American art at the International Exhibition in Venice.

Among teachers of art should be mentioned Alexander T. Van Laer, Miss Minnie Fuller, and Miss May Sanford (Mrs. Hunt), directors of the art studio at Buchtel College prior to the discontinuing of the art department in 1911; Mrs. Jane Barnhardt and Miss Sylla, who were largely responsible for organizing the art work in the high schools and grade schools respectively; and John Csosz, the present efficient head of the Art School of the Akron Art Institute. In photographic art the work of Hervey W. Minns is outstanding, being of not only national, but international, reputation. For years a strong influence in arousing

interest in photographic art was the Akron Camera Club. Formed in the early nineties by Professor C. M. Knight for the college students only, the club soon extended its membership to include others. It joined a national association of camera clubs, interchanged work with the other members of the association, and each year sent its best work to compete with similar work from the other clubs in an exhibition held in one of the largest centers.

Of utmost importance to art in Akron has been the founding of the Art Institute. October 19, 1920, at the suggestion of the Akron Fine Arts Club, twenty-four citizens met to discuss the desirability and the possibility of an art museum for Akron. A second meeting was held November 17, attended by thirty-four interested persons; an organization was perfected, a constitution adopted, and trustees elected, E. C. Shaw being unanimously chosen chairman of the board.

The purposes of the institution, as outlined in the constitution, are: to promote an interest in the fine arts, to provide a place for art exhibitions, to secure lectures on art, to exhibit art in the schools, and to obtain and hold works of art. As the basement of the Public Library was available for exhibition purposes, it was decided to charge a membership fee of ten dollars, and to start a drive for members the following June in order to get funds for remodeling the Library basement. In December, 1921, an art institute for Akron was assured when a number of business men underwrote a plan, prepared by Mr. Shaw, for a sum of money, which, with that already secured from memberships, would be adequate to remodel the Library rooms and to pay for bringing good exhibitions to the city.

In 1922, the first year of the Institute, Rev. Frank-

lyn Cole Sherman was president; there were six exhibitions and fifty lectures, with an attendance for the year of over ten thousand. The president of the Institute in 1923 was E. C. Shaw. There were eleven exhibitions, eighty lectures, and an attendance of nearly 22,000, including 2,077 school children and three hundred students of the University. In 1924, when M. M. Mell was president, the number of exhibitions was twelve, there were twenty-five lectures, and an attendance of 18,000. During these years the Institute has brought to Akron some of the finest exhibits of art in America. Some of them have been valued at not less than $250,000 or $300,000.

Of special significance the past two years have been the exhibitions of the work of Akron artists. Nothing could better testify to the real art interest among us and the high quality of much of our local art. We regret that lack of space forbids mentioning even the names of contributing artists. Suffice it to say that no less than 144 works of art were accepted by the jury of awards for the 1924 exhibition—75 in oil, 10 in water colors, 6 in pastel, 9 in charcoal, 4 in pen and ink, 1 in pencil, 4 in architectural renderings, 30 in photography, and 5 in arts and crafts. Naturally the number was smaller this year (1925) since no work of art, once submitted, may be submitted again; but even with this restriction, 103 were accepted by the judges of this year's exhibition.

An important forward step was taken August 1, 1924, when Wilbur D. Peat of Cleveland was appointed director of the Institute. Mr. Peat brings to his position excellent training, enthusiasm, and high ideals, and under his directorship the Institute is destined to become an increasingly potent factor in Akron's cultural life.

Side by side with her interest in music and art has

been Akron's interest in literature: in the study of literature, as is evidenced by the large number of existing literary clubs, but also in the making of literature, for Akron citizens have been authors of books as well as readers, writing for sheer joy in the work.

Before world tours were heard of, an Akron girl was so fortunate as to journey to Japan. Later she set down her impressions and they came out in a slender volume privately printed. That Akron girl was the daughter of George W. Crouse, Sr., now Mrs. Horace M. Houser. In like manner, Mrs. Emily Bronson Conger, who went to the Far East to join her son, recorded her experiences in "An Ohio Woman in the Philippines." One of our present-day citizens, William A. Johnston, first noted down for the members of his own family his reminiscences of boyhood days; they are now enjoyed by the public in his "My Own Main Street."

For our knowledge of local history we are greatly indebted to the men who have recorded and preserved in books the story of Akron's beginnings and growth. Lucius V. Bierce, S. A. Lane, William B. Doyle, P. P. Cherry, Russell L. Fouse, and O. E. Olin have made the history of Akron and Summit county available in convenient and interesting form.

In biography C. Landon Knight's "The Real Jefferson Davis" and the late R. M. Wanamaker's "The Voice of Lincoln" are noteworthy. Writers of juveniles include James A. Braden, Rev. George P. Atwater, Ada Louise Saalfield, and Caroll Cassidy Cole. Frank S. Pixley, a former Akron man, achieved signal success with his "Prince of Pilsen" and other musical comedies.

Fanny Coburn Kohler, wife of Judge J. A. Kohler, was a constant contributor of verse to local papers, and some of her work was collected and privately

printed. Mrs. Ada Louise Saalfield (Ada Louise Sutton) is the author of two volumes of poems, "Sweeter Still Than This" and "Seeds of April's Sowing." Lulu Weeks Knight (Mrs. M. A. Knight) has written poetry of real worth, some of which has appeared in leading magazines.

In the field of fiction, Mrs. Ruth Louise Sheldon was long a writer. Walter H. Haushalter, Akron-born and educated, now pastor of a large Church at Columbia, Missouri, has several novels to his credit, the latest entitled "The Lotus-Throne of Nirvana." Marjorie Barkley McClure, for several years past a resident of Akron, has won wide recognition through her first novel, "High Fires." Dr. Herbert S. Mallory, now on the faculty of the University of Michigan, is the author of the novel "Tempered Steel;" he has also published an excellent work in literary criticism entitled "Backgrounds of Book Reviewing."

Akron men have contributed to the literature of special branches of learning and business. An early writer in the field of history was William T. Coggsshall, later state librarian and minister to Ecuador under President Johnson. Samuel P. Orth, a former professor in Buchtel College, and later at Cornell University, has long been recognized as a writer of authority in political science and sociology. President P. R. Kolbe, of the University of Akron, is the author of "The Colleges in War-Time and After," and Dean A. I. Spanton has given us "Fifty Years of Buchtel." Under the name of "J. S. Hopkins," John J. Stickle has published books on the art of dancing. Among the clergy Dr. Lloyd C. Douglas has written "The Minister's Every-Day Life," and Dr. George P. Atwater is the author of several books on religious subjects. P. W. Litchfield's "The Industrial Republic," Dr. William C. Geer's "The Reign of Rubber,"

and David L. Brown's "Export Advertising," are significant contributions to the literature of modern industry.

Akron contributors to periodicals of national circulation are numerous. Forty years ago Dr. Samuel Findley published the Ohio Educational Monthly; today the names of H. M. Horst, W. J. Bankes, and Parke R. Kolbe are known to all who read educational journals. William B. Haynes has a large audience among readers of sporting magazines, Herman Fetzer contributes to the humorous press, and George P. Atwater and Lloyd Douglas are frequent contributors to religious and literary periodicals.

AKRON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The idea of the Akron Public Library was conceived as early as 1834, when the Ohio Legislature granted a charter to the Akron Lyceum and Library Association Company, an organization for the "promotion of literary pursuits." Books were purchased by selling stock at $25 a share. In November, 1844, this organization disbanded because of loss of members by death and otherwise. But similar organizations followed. The Mechanics' Library Association, formed in 1846, was superseded in 1853 by the Akron School Library, which gave place ten years later to the Akron Lecture Association. In March, 1866, this organization became the Akron Library Association, the direct ancestor of our present Public Library.

The eight incorporators of the Akron Library Association were David L. King, Stephen H. Pitkin, William H. Upson, Charles B. Bernard, James H. Peterson, Julius Lane, Samuel Lane, and George W. Crouse. Funds were derived from a fee of $2 from each incorporator, a $3 fee from other members, and over one hundred life memberships of $50 each. Soon a circulating library was established, in addition to

the reading room of the Association on the west side of Howard st. By 1870 the society had outgrown the Howard st. quarters, and in that year, through the generosity of friends, it purchased for $3500 the second floor of the new Masonic Temple at the northeast corner of Mill and Howard sts.

In 1869 Ohio cities were empowered by the state legislature to establish and maintain free libraries and reading rooms. January 26, 1874, the Akron City Council by ordinance established under this law the Akron Public Library, the first free library, supported by taxation, in the city.

There are still many people in Akron who remember the early days of the Library; the narrow, dingy stairway leading to the second floor of the Masonic building; the large coal stove; the closed book shelves with their heavy glass doors; the books barred from the public by a railing; and the crowded reading tables. Children under twelve were not permitted to draw books; in fact, they had no place in the public library of that day.

In October, 1898, larger quarters being needed, the entire second floor of the Everett Building was rented. The Library remained here until moved to its present location six years later. The present building was made possible by a gift of $82,000 from Andrew Carnegie, on condition that the city furnish a site, and a sum equal to ten per cent of the gift annually for maintenance. The site is historic ground. Formerly the site of the Bierce home, it had been donated by General L. V. Bierce for a city park. Too small for this purpose, it was the logical selection to meet Mr. Carnegie's offer.

The Library now grew rapidly. New departments were added, the force was greatly increased, and the entire range of the work was broadened. Of the new-

er features, special mention should be made of the children's library and the extension department. The former was made possible by the gift of $2000 for books by F. H. Mason, and contributions from other persons to provide suitable furniture for a children's room. Maude Herndon was appointed children's librarian, remaining in that position until 1920, when she became librarian. Still further work was now done for the children by the library staff: story telling in the schools, work in the homes of the "slum" districts, and the organizing of children's library clubs.

Prior to 1920 but little extension work was attempted. At various times small collections of books had been placed in fire engine houses, Sunday Schools, a community house, and home libraries, but no real branches had been established. A school collection was purchased in 1919, and operated in four schools by the children's librarian, and in the fall of 1920 two fair-sized collections were placed in the Firestone Club house and in a room furnished by the Board of Education in Mason School. The library operated these two stations, supplying books and assistants. When it was decided to open East Branch in a spacious room in Goodyear Club house September, 1922, the books were removed from Mason School and put in the general school collection. The next year the City Water Works Company granted the use of one of its buildings on the old water works property for a nominal rental, and the Wooster Branch was established.

Definite plans had already been made to establish branch libraries in every part of the city. Unfortunately, inadequate funds have made it impossible to carry out these plans fully; both the north and west sections of Akron are still without library service.

The librarians have been: E. P. Green, librarian of Akron Library Association before 1874; Theron A.

Noble, 1874-1875; Horton Wright, 1875-1882; J. A. Beebe, 1882-1889; Mary Pauline Edgerton, 1889-1920; Maude Herndon, 1920-.

Akron will not soon forget the faithful and enduring work of Miss Edgerton, who labored so many years, with small remuneration, for the upbuilding of the Library. Her spirit and loyalty, her unselfishness and courage, will remain an example and lasting memory to those who worked with her. She set a standard in the spirit of service which Akron should ever strive to maintain in its Library. The Akron Public Library is a monument to her memory. Another name which will always be closely associated with the Akron Public Library is that of Mrs. J. M. Proehl, who was appointed an assistant when Miss Edgerton became librarian. She became reference librarian in the new library building, and did much for the upbuilding of the reference work. She made many friends, and her association with the Library is a pleasant recollection to the people of Akron. She served in this capacity until November, 1922.

The year 1924 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the Akron Public Library. Considerable progress has been made during these fifty years. In 1877 the expenditure was $2023.36; in 1924 it was $50,000; 379,711 books were circulated to 32,849 persons, and there was a staff of thirty-six members. However, the Library still falls far short of giving adequate service to all Akron's citizens, and it is hoped that ere long funds will be available sufficient to give Akron a library which in size, equipment, and range of service will be entirely worthy of a great city.

Amusements and Meeting Places

By Laurine Wanamaker Schwan

ANY feeling of commiseration you may hold toward the poor creature who sped out his little span before the great and startling inventions of the past thirty years may justifiably be laid aside in lavender. It's a pretty enough sentiment, that of believing our own times the most beneficent and thrilling of all, but facts seldom bear it out. With the exception of the age of strictest Puritanism it may safely be stated that every age has germinated the same desires (and realized the same proportion of them) as we do today. Perhaps the means may have changed a little; but whether for better or worse is open to argument.

In the early part of Akron's history, amusements, of course, were mostly confined to Church socials, literary societies, picnics, and, for those belonging to the more liberal congregations, euchre parties. There were, alas, unregenerate persons who knew not Churches and for these unfortunates, we find with pain, saloons soon made their appearance.

One of the chief differences between those times and the present, was in the manner of spending the Sabbath. Sunday mornings the townspeople with fresh faces and best habiliments would wend their way en famille to the various Churches. By en famille, we mean en famille. Father wasn't off golfing nor was mother motoring to a beach party. Everybody went to Church, including the servants. And if we today had a quaint, white building surmounted by a slender, groping spire, with pews of oak rubbed by use to dark beauty, perhaps more of us might re-enact

the scene. Perhaps. And, too, in those days the congregation went to sing, not to criticise singing, and if one had to drop his eyes to pick up a word of "A Mighty Fortress" or "Rock of Ages" it was a more or less disgraceful procedure.

Then after service and certain neighborly greetings were over, the family horse was unhitched, from the long line of hitching posts, or else one went home on foot through the dust, or mud as it might be, of High and Market sts., expansive in the beatic knowledge of virtue, to a heavy dinner. After dinner, naps for the elders and the young people, if their parents were not exceptionally strict, were then permitted to go walking. One popular walk was along the Cuyahoga river, another up through the woodsy ravine of what is now Glendale cemetery, and there was a third, probably the favorite, of going south past the Churches on High st., and up across the fields and ravines to the old cemetery in the outskirts. This cemetery stood where now stands the University of Akron.

EXCITING TIMES

Times were never dull in Akron. Public affairs were taken very seriously and the quarrel between North Akron and South Akron was a personal matter with the inhabitants. South Akron centered around Main and Exchange. Here the first hotel, Clarke's Tavern, was built in 1825 on the corner where now stands the Depositors Savings and Trust. Diagonally across from this was the old Town Pump. This wooden pump for many years was mentioned in deeds and leases to describe the location of properties. They would be thus and thus far in a stated direction from the Town Pump. North Akron centered around Howard and Market. The Seth Iredell dry goods store was here, and the Cascade House. This settlement was

considered a mushroom growth and rather an upstart.

The exciting day when the Pennsylvania & Onio canal was formally opened was long remembered in Akron. The "flotilla" of six new and elegantly decorated boats with numerous dignitaries aboard sailed right down Main st. and were escorted by the Akron Brass Band. This was a quite new organization, the first of its kind in Akron. It was founded by Henry Abbey, Akron's pioneer jeweler, and M. T. Cutter was a member. This band was in great demand for

East Market St., Looking East From Main St., 1855, Showing Tappan Hall.

all occasions. At one time the Beacon produced the following bit of eloquence upon its efforts:

"On the evening of the third the Cleveland and Akron bands gave a concert at their quarters where the elite of our village and the neighborhood did not fail to be present and enjoy the sweet and enlivening strains, made doubly so by the coolness and stillness of the evening."

A short time later Akron became the county seat and blossomed considerably in self esteem. The new court house was a fine, grey stone edifice. It had dignity, simplicity and grace, and we mourn its passing. It seems odd that nowhere in Akron is there one single old building left in recognizable state. Some of them were worth preserving.

At this time (1845) Akron was a quaint village with dirt roads lined by trees. These trees were so thick that the Old Stone Church (Universalist, and considered one of the handsomest in Ohio) which stood a few doors north of Market on High st., could not be seen from the intersection of Market. High st. was the street of Churches and dwellings; Howard st. was the street of stores and a few residences; Market st. was lined with fascinating frame buildings and hitching posts. But Main st. was a disreputable dump with the new canal sluicing muddily down its length. At night, for many years, it was a decidedly unhealthy spot. Tramps and the riff-raff of the town were apt to spring from behind shanties upon hurrying pedestrians. It was studiously avoided. At Market st. was a wooden bridge. It was hardly wide enough for two teams to pass. On the southwest corner of this intersection was the Ohio Exchange, a fairly pretentious hotel, which later burned.

Several smaller hotels were finally succeeded by the amazing Empire Hotel. This was built on the present site of the Portage Hotel. It was a fine square building with shutters and on its roof was a cupola where one could watch for approaching canal boats and inform the hotel cook when to get ready for dinner. There were two elegant parlors on the second floor of this building and in its basement was a popular bar. For some time the Sumner House gave the new hotel considerable competition. The

Sumner House stood on the corner of North Howard and Federal sts., and therefor had a much more select location. Howard st. was a respectable thoroughfare and Main st., with nothing, north, but livery stables and nothing, south, but mud and shanties, was not. Furthermore the Sumner House had a dining room which especially catered to business men. But gradually the Empire Hotel gained in popularity. Its broad sidewalks were lined with tempting cane seated chairs, and from its second floor balcony on Market st., noted visitors were wont to give addresses. During the Blaine-Logan campaign, Senator Logan, himself, talked from this vantage point to assembled Akronites.

In the early days, Churches unanimously frowned upon dancing. Several spirited young people, though it meant serious upheavals in their lives, refused to join Church for this reason. But later on certain of the Churches abated this severity and when Elvy Ballou set up as a dancing master in the building just west of the Empire, on Market st., there was not so much disapproval as might have been expected. Here a goodly proportion of Akron learned the Monie Musk, Mazurka, the quadrille, the polka, Virginia Reel and the vesuviana. And did them well.

CALICO BALL

A time came when Akron was so thoroly won over to dancing that when the great Calico Ball was given Feb. 2, 1875, the town was unanimous in its support. At this time Akron had 13,000 inhabitants and with such great size there naturally would exist a certain proportion of poor and needy. It was a cold winter and the poor, as usual, needed coal and food. Just who originated the great idea of giving a ball to raise the money is not known, but apparently the whole town sponsored it once it was suggested.

The "Daily Argus" on the day of the great event appeared printed on calico and practically all of its twenty columns were devoted to news of the Ball. There were two columns of poetry. One presented quotations from the Bible and Shakspeare exhorting the people to dance and the other contained choice bits both original and quoted on the subject of charity.

On the front page in two column width appeared the program for the evening. The ball was to be held in Sumner House and a fine musical entertainment was to be presented during the "supper" which would be served between 8 and 11. The program of dances followed with quadrille and monie musk and schottische interspersed with a 20 minute intermission.

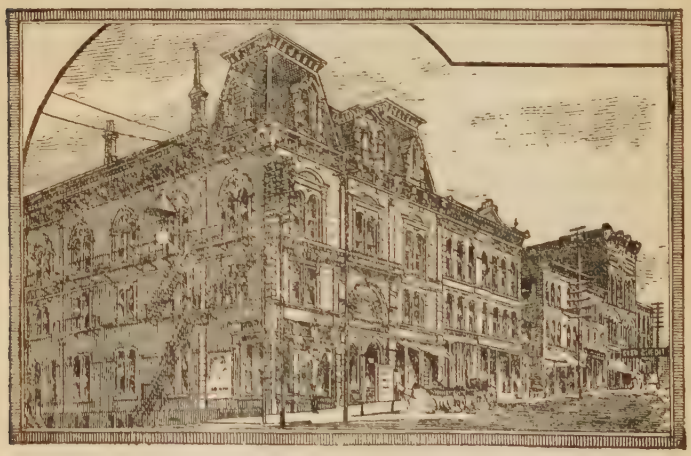
The Daily Argus boasted a clever reporter, we wish we knew his name, who wrote with charming raillery thumb-nail sketches of each of the ten floor managers, M. H. Hart, R. P. Marvin, W. A. Palmer, Ed. A. Kent, Jacob Koch, A. L. Bowman, B. Diesenberg, C. H. Mathews, Tod Ford and Henry Abbey. All apparently were gay young bachelors save, as the reporter lagubriously pointed out, Mr. Ed Kent, who had recently become a benedict and would "bear watching."

Phoenix Hall was Akron's first theatre. It stood on Howard st., about where the Dodge Furniture store now stands. One of the first amateur efforts at drama was "Hamlet," which was put on there by a group of high school boys. "The Mistletoe Bough" was produced by another group in Mr. Ballou's dancing hall. Phoenix Hall was used also for political meetings.

Tappan Hall, used often for lodge meetings and sociables, stood on the south side of E. Market, between Main and High.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC

Akron's gala days for the drama came in with the Academy of Music. This was Akron's second theatre and was located in a large new building across the canal from the Empire Hotel, on the site of the present Everett building. The academy was built in 1869 and professional drama was for many years in charge of Mr. W. G. Robinson, who owned Robinson's Book Store. For 30 years he was manager of the theatre. He booked all the plays and it is with considerable chagrin that one is forced to the realization that Akron, at one time, was a



The Academy of Music.

good show town. All of Akron's elite turned out for these performances which were actually paying productions. On the bills appear such famous names as Edwin Booth, Ada Rehan, Modjeska, Lotta Crabtree, Sara Bernhardt, John McCullough, etc. The theatre was on the top floor of the building and here society wended its wellbred way.

Upon the occasion of the appearance of a particu-

larly famous star, perfume was gallantly sprayed over the orchestra seats so that the smell of tobacco might not prove offensive to the nostrils of the divinity. From two to five dollars was paid per ticket for these performances! But there were other attractions at more "popular" prices. Every August came Al. G. Field's or Hi Henry's minstrels to open the season. Perennially "Uncle Tom's Cabin" held the boards. And think of "The Chimes of Normandy," "Carmen" and other light operas for a week's stand at ten, twenty and thirty cents. And that Wilbur Opera Company included respectable talent, too.

Akron also had its share of amateur minstrel shows, in which at one period Tod Ford, Art Harbaugh and John Botzum were among the leading lights. P. J. Cummins directed a number of these and took his shows to adjacent towns with no little addition to their fame. At one time a ladies' minstrel show was put on but silence seems to have shrouded this episode.

CUSHMAN DRAMATIC CLUB

About 1876 two influential organizations came into being, one the Cushman Dramatic Club and the other the Akron Choral Society. The leading spirit in the Dramatic society was A. T. Saunders, artist, director and playwright. Charter members of this organization were: Newton Chisnell and Cameron Clemmons (these two later graduated to the professional stage), Chas. E. Perkins, Wm. H. Sperling, I. D. Sperling, Hugo Schumacher, George W. Sieber, Percy W. Leavitt, W. W. Saunders, A. T. Saunders, Alf. A. Tame, Allen Walker, Geo. Kromer, W. S. Chase, W. G. Robinson and Tod Ford. The women: Lillie Rice, Mrs. Hugo Schumacher, Mrs. W. W. Saunders, Ada Kershaw, Estelle Simmons, and later, Carita McEbright. The directors were Mr. Chisnell and A. T. Saunders.

One of the most interesting of its productions was a play called "The Lights of Akron." This was a satire on the quarrel then in progress between the oil and gas interests. It was written by A. T. and W. W. Saunders and was under the musical direction of Prof. Arthur Kimball. This was patterned after Julius Caesar and was produced with great success. Mrs. Henry Perkins added to the occasion by giving a fine solo as an extra attraction.

Other productions given by the Cushman Dramatic Club were: "The Streets of New York," "Coleen Bawn," "Dream at Sea," "Temptation," "Ten Nights in a Bar Room," "Bombastes Furioso." These were all given at the Academy of Music and were frequently given for the benefit of various charitable organizations such as the Ladies' Cemetery Association, City Hospital, etc.

Later Hotels

With the coming of the eighties and early nineties, Akron had broadened out considerably. The ravines and gorges of East Market were long since filled in and residences built there. Ash st. was a very fine residential section. The Conger home, the Miller, the Harvey Musser, the D. L. King residences were all located there. Once, in digging up some ground in the rear of the Musser home, the old race track was encountered, packed hard as metal. Akron began to show evidences of civic consciousness and the P. & O. canal, once its pride and the source of no little of its power, had fallen into disuse, with the advent of steam. It was now an eye sore, debasing the center of the town, its waters sluggish and its vicinity, as always, a retreat for petty thieves and idlers. In these straits Mr. Ferdinand Schumacher, a far sighted and patriotic citizen, and others set about remedying matters. Mr. Schumacher bought up the land along

Main st., for a mere song and was one of the largest contributors to the improvement when the city walled in the canal in a conduit. Thus Akron gained a respectable street, much of the west side of which was quickly built up. Under all the traffic of Main st., from the Terminal building to a few rods north of Mill st., the old canal still holds its course. The conduit is an oval, its greatest diameter six feet.

A short time after this the Buchtel hotel was built on the corner of Mill and Main. It was erected in

Empire Hotel, 1875—Site of the Later Portage Hotel. Note the Canal in North Main St.

1884 on the marshy site of a lumber yard and was considered entirely too far from the center of town to be practical. But its splendor overcame these drawbacks and for a few years it was Akron's pride.

Early in the Twentieth century, Akron, booming lustily and increasing its population in awesome leaps, found itself indecently ahead of its proper accoutrements. Canton, its smaller neighbor whose pace had been more sedate

and far-seeing, was far more cosmopolitan. Its hotels for instance, were long a thorn in Akron's side. The Empire and Buchtel, grand places in their day, were getting shabby and were quite inadequate in size. Public spirited citizens discussed the matter and there was considerable hue and cry. And out of this hue and cry came the Portage Hotel on the site of the old Empire and afterward Hotel Howe.

These two hotels meant the demolition of practically the last of Akron's livery stables, Jackson's barns on North Main and John Pringle's on South Main. Livery stables had played a necessary and highly considered part in the life of the town. Buggy riding in a smart trap or surrey on Sunday afternoon and any evening was a diversion par excellence. A nice rig could be procured for $1.50 the evening. These, alas, were now quite superseded by the explosive and highly dangerous horseless carriage.

The Portage was opened June 10, 1912 and cost approximately $650,000. The Howe was built soon after and was followed by The Akron, Marne, Bond and other smaller hotels.

ALBERT AND ROSE HALLS

A thing of beauty and consequence as a place of polite assemblage in the nineties was Albert Hall, on the top floor of the Paige Block, now a part of the M. O'Neil department store. Here the Young Married People's Club, The Knox Club, Enter Nous, Epicurean and other dancing clubs held their meetings. And here flourished Akron's elite dancing school under the tutelage of Prof. and Mrs. W. F. Stickle, whose annual children's dancing review was a notable event, indeed. At one time the business men of Akron gave a dinner at Albert Hall, in honor of George W. Crouse in recognition of his general helpfulness in all local enterprises. The cost of

the dinner was seven dollars a plate! And was purported to be worth every cent of it.

With the absorption of Albert Hall by the O'Neil Company, came Rose Hall on the top floor of Akron's new sky scraper, the Hamilton building, (now the Central Savings & Trust Building.) This was named after Mrs. Will (Rose Day) Christy, and was for many years a popular hall. Akron's first Charity Ball, now an annual event, for the benefit of the Children's hospital, was held at Rose Hall in 1911. Mrs. C. B. Raymond was the originator in Akron of this pleasurable form of philanthropy.

SKATING RINKS

In 1884-5 roller skating came in for one of its recurring waves of popularity,—Akron must at once have a skating rink. So Dr. Peterson, father of Mrs. Chas. Dick, built one on West Market st., across the present canal. Here Akron roller-skated jocularly for a year when it tired of this sport for a while. The rink then became known as Assembly Hall and was used for meetings of all kinds. Here, at one time, Henry Ward Beecher gave an address to an enthusiastic audience. He took as his subject, "Society, Its Wastes and Burdens." It was a gala night for Akron. Wm. McKinley, General Gordon and other famous men spoke in Assembly Hall.

Then roller skating having revived in interest, two young blades, Clarence and Charles Howland, started a new rink on South Main st., called Columbia Hall. This was a very popular hall until it, together with the buildings, just south and the old City Hall on the north, burned in the Akron riot.

Much later the skating craze returned and a rink was built on East Market st., on the lawn of the once palatial home of Ferdinand Schumacher. In time this

was changed over to a dance hall and is now the East Market "Garden."

PICNICS

Of course not all of Akron was engaged in dancing, skating or amateur dramatics and for the young folks there were always class socials and picnics. At one time one of the more enterprising Sunday School classes of the Baptist Church decided to go out to what is now the corner of Beck av. and West Market st., for their picnic. This was considered radical for such young children and it was criticized unkindly. But it was a successful party.

Later on, longer jaunts were the rule. One rather adventurous picnic enterprise was to go to Lock One on the canal and embark on the 20 foot steamer "City of Akron," to spend the day at Long Lake. Frequently the steamer got caught in the weeds, a peculiarity handed down to later launches, and the time of passage was a matter of speculation. Mothers be-calmned for an hour or two in mid-channel, under a broiling sun and with several mischievous or querulous offspring, usually crabbed the party and commented freely and in plain terms on what they thought of the plan in the first place. It was much better to hire a surrey and drive up to Silver Lake! At least you were sure of getting there and ice for the lemonade could be procured at Lodge's. Heaven knew whether they would get even decent drinking water in the wilderness about Long Lake.

And indeed, Silver Lake in its earlier sylvan solitude was an ideal spot. Most of us can remember it in its Coney Island aspect. But before that when it was a lovely grassy woods with nothing but a small bath house, genteel row boats and a good well, it was perfect. Later with its varied amusements it was a favorite spot for half of Ohio. As many as fourteen

picnics a day would come at times from Cleveland or other points up to 100 miles away—of course by railroad.

Another festivity much in vogue at one time was trolley parties. It was a common sight on summer nights to see gayly decked street cars, bunting hung and especially lighted, sometimes fitted with a band, carrying a happy party of young people about the city or perhaps as far as Cuyahoga Falls and back. Very successful they were, too.

Lakeside Park (now Summit Beach) was also a picnic ground. But there was little there but pop stands and the band concert on Sundays. Later the Casino was built and Akron went out there for many years to vaudeville and minstrel shows, Monday night at the Casino being quite a society event. Harry Hawn was for many years manager of the Casino. One of the favorite Sunday afternoon diversions for youngsters was to get on the front seat of the old-fashioned open street car, right by the motorman, and ride out around the loop at Lakeside and back again.

LATER AMATEUR DRAMATICS

Succeeding the Cushman Dramatic Club came the Akron Musical and Dramatic Association, (1891). It produced "Tweedleton's Tail Coat" and "The Sleeping Queen." In this latter operetta, Mrs. F. A. Seiberling and Miss Anna Berry took the leading roles. One of the principal productions of this association was an original play in four acts written by A. T. Saunders, "Hard Lines." This was put on with tremendous eclat and received highly complimentary newspaper notices. The cast comprised, Mrs. F. A. Seiberling, Miss Carita McEbright, Miss Anna Berry, Miss Annie Doyle, Percy Leavitt, W. S. Chase, Geo. Hitchcock, Chas. Burnham, Geo. Saunders, James Quinn, and the author himself.

INCIDENTS AT ACADEMY OF MUSIC

At one time the Academy of Music was partially burned. It was restored as soon as possible and Rufus Wright, the artist, was commissioned to paint the scenery. Owing to the natural desire of some of the members of the community to add a note of dignity to the theatre, the subject agreed upon for the drop curtain was an old Biblical picture, "No Night In Heaven." This was duly painted and thereafter the theatre patrons were edified by the sight of helpful angels flying back and forth between Heaven and what was presumably earth, on errands of mercy.

On one occasion Akron so far transcended its customary dignity that, carried away in a surge of local pride it was guilty of what might have been deemed an error in taste. It was the night when Hamlet (professionally, this time) came to strut his tragic hour. And Hamlet was portrayed by no less an artist than the great Edwin Booth, himself. Well, the promising young amateur, Newton Chisnell, decided that he would very much enjoy the sensation of appearing professionally. Particularly in the same cast with Booth. So he persuaded the actor who impersonated the second Grave Digger, to allow him to play that role in Akron. And play it he did, very creditably. But Akron was so bloated with pride at seeing one of its own in so distinguished a company that—entirely neglecting the great Booth—it applauded the Grave Digger wildly, with hands and bouquets, almost disrupting the show. But we, naturally, can forgive that, whether Booth, himself, ever did or not. Likely not.

MUSICAL ORGANIZATIONS

Akron has always been known as a music center. The first musical organization, excepting the bands, was the Akron Liedertafel. This was organized in 1855 when it elected as officers, D. Umstatter, H. Fischer, and

Carl F. Kolbe. William Carl was director. In 1869 the Liedertafel took up quarters in Phoenix Hall. Siegel was made director and still holds that position. After the advent of Paul E. Werner this society became his particular pet. Early in the new century he initiated the movement which erected a hall which is the present Music Hall on East Exchange st. Mrs. Helen Storer Collins took an active part in this club at one time. Many fine concerts were given by Akron choruses and professional artists. Following these concerts, patrons generally filed down to the supper room where refreshments, with beer, and dancing continued for an hour or more.

The Akron Choral Society was founded in 1878. This society was interested solely in local talent. It produced a number of dramatic cantatas and light operas, among which were "The Haymakers" and "The Chimes of Normandy," directed by Prof. N. L. Glover and A. T. Saunders. The latter production was taken to Cleveland and was highly successful. Among those taking part in these performances were, Nellie Wilcox, L. May Burnham, Samuel Richards, Clarence Findlay, Chas. Burton, Mrs. Henry Perkins and Mrs. Chas. Lohmann.

The Tuesday Musical Club was organized in 1887 by Mrs. George Baker who was first president and director of the club. After a year Mrs. Baker moved to another city but her work was enthusiastically carried on by other musicians. Mrs. Helen Storer Collins early became prominent in its work and Mrs. F. A. Seiberling has been active for a number of years; she was elected honorary president and was the first honorary member.

This has been an exceedingly important organization. It has never faltered in its determination to bring the best musical talent to Akron. For many

years the club gave a series of afternoon concerts as well as evening. These afternoon concerts were delightful, bringing to Akron ambitious young artists who were eager to make a name. Some of Akron's "finds" were Mischa Elman, Rienald Werrenrath and Cecil Fanning. Tickets for the afternoon course which included ten concerts were $1.50!

Upon the bankruptcy of the German American Hall Company the Tuesday Club were forced to discontinue these concerts for lack of a hall which could be secured at a reasonable rental.

An evening chorus was long an important part of this club. "Lohengrin" with H. Evan Williams, "Samson and Delilah," "The Swan and Skylark" and others were presented.

A number of light operas were given as the final offering, on courses of evening concerts. One of the first of these was "The Bohemian Girl" which was given at the Grand Opera House with Mrs. R. M. Wanamaker, Miss Beatrice McCue, Fred W. Work and Ed. A. Upham in the principal roles. Later came the "Mikado," "Pirates of Penzance," "Patience," "The Gondoliers" and "The Japanese Girl." T. S. (Steve) Eichelberger appeared in all of these. Other principals included Miss Katherine McMillan, Mrs. N. O. Mather, Miss Addie Voss (later Mrs. Eichelberger), Mrs. Seiberling, Mrs. Wanamaker, Fred W. Work, Amos Engelbeck, Paul M. Held, George Stubbs, Mrs. D. L. Marvin, who was an inimitable comedy actress, Miss Grace Henry, Joseph B. Sieber, Russel Belden and others. The earlier productions were drilled by Adolph Liesegang, of Cleveland, accustomed to directing professionals. It sometimes required great tact on the part of the officials to soothe the ruffled feelings of the cast after some of his temperamental outbursts. But his results were excellent.

On one occasion Miss Addie Voss was supposed to come upon the stage in a gondola amid a bevy of beautiful maidens. The gondola and the beautiful maidens started on but Miss Voss inadvertently slid off the boat without their knowledge. Thereupon to her great discomfiture she was forced to walk after them right down the middle of the supposed canal.

For many years the club gave the "Messiah" during each Christmas season.

The last dramatic effort of the club came with the appearance at the Armory of "The Children's Crusade," by Pierné. This was an event of especial importance. "The Children's Crusade" was the French prize oratorio and dealt with a theme of singular appeal. It required seven soloists, a mixed chorus and, besides, a chorus of 300 children. The latter were directed by Mrs. D. S. Bowman, who is the present club president. Mrs. Katherine Bruot was for many years the club's official accompanist.

AN OLD QUARTET

Akron took a great deal of pride at one time in her mixed quartet. This was composed of Mrs. Henry Perkins, Mrs. S. S. Haynes, Clarence Findley and Mr. W. H. Ingersoll. This quartet was in demand for meetings of all kinds and was universally loved. After the death of Mrs. Perkins, the quartet was continued for some time with Mrs. R. M. Wanamaker, Mrs. Haynes, Mr. Findley and Mr. Wilson G. Putt.

LATER THEATRES

After the Academy of Music burned, one Sunday morning in 1896, and after A. T. Saunders retired from active participation in amateur performances, drama rather languished in Akron. The Grand Opera House on North Main st. was then erected by the making over of a former factory building. Some very good plays were shown there with Daniels, Skinner,

Hackett, Francis Wilson and other celebrities. T. K. Albaugh managed the theatre. In later years the Grand became a house of melodrama and burlesque and what few good things came to town were to be seen at the new Colonial; but Akron seemed to grow more interested in coupons and less in art and got the name of being a bad show town. From present indications it is industriously living up to its name.

The first picture show in Akron came in 1907 and was the National which still exists under that name. It was owned by Mr. Shippecasse who had slot machines in the front half of the theatre so that the place might pay expenses. Motion pictures were looked at askance for some time. The second show was called the Pastime and, sandwiched in between the Central Savings Bank and the Frank jewelry store, it made a better bid for respectable patronage. It was owned by the late M. C. Winter who later owned most of the picture theatres in Akron, and amassed a fair fortune.

The present legitimate theatre is in East Akron, the Goodyear Theatre. For the past two years Akron has had a bill of exceptionally good offerings. These were very poorly patronized. It is doubtful if Akron will have anything but burlesque next season.

THE CIVIC DRAMA ASSOCIATION

In 1922 a Little Theatre movement was started by the college Club under the impetus of two newcomers, Mrs. J. B. Dickson and Mrs. J. S. Spear. The Civic Drama Association came into being one night in April, 1922, in the basement of the Public Library. Mrs. A. T. Carnahan was the first president, Mrs. Dickson was production head, Mrs. Spear had the manuscript section, and Mrs. Harry Karnaghan was head of the study group. After Mrs. Spear's depar-

ture from Akron, Mrs. Ernest Schwan was in charge of the manuscript section.

The first summer three outdoor productions were given. "Punchinello," an elaborate masque, was given at "Stan Hywet," the home of F. A. Seiberling; "As You Like It" was given at the McLaughlin home, and "The Carnival" was given on Fir Hill.

The following winter, quarters were taken in what is now the Woman's City Club on Union st. Mrs. Philip Chapin Jones was director for this season. The organization is now located at 301 East Market st. It is producing plays regularly under the direction of Miss Joyce Benner, Mr. Burton Garlinghouse, Mr. Ridley and Miss Carita McEbright. The present board consists of Miss McEbright, president; Mrs. Ernest Schwan, Mrs. W. S. Woods, Dale Robertson, Williard Seiberling, Mrs. W. C. Preston, Mr. Fred Lahrmer, Mr. Ralph Ridley, Mr. R. K. Crawford.

Fraternal and Civic Organizations of Akron

By Almon B. Cannon

The Masons

THE human propensity to "join" began to express itself early in Akron's history, although in point of fact it was in Middlebury rather than in Akron proper that the first fraternal order appeared, which was the Masonic. This was as early as 1815, but the Middlebury lodge apparently was not successful, for it disbanded prior to the organizing of the original lodge in Akron, which was the Akron No. 83, on October 21st, 1841. On the 25th of the same month the first Royal Arch chapter, Washington chapter, was chartered.

No further organization took place until 1871, when the first Akron Commandery of Knights Templars was chartered, and in 1878 the second lodge, Adoniram 517 was instituted. Expansion kept pace with Akron's rapid growth in the early 1900's, Henry Perkins, No. 611 being organized in 1911, Loyalty, 645, in 1918, and the second chapter of Royal Arch Masons in 1919. The year 1920 saw two new lodges opened, Coventry, 665, and Joppa, 666, also the second Commandery of Knights Templars, Bethany Commandery No. 72; while Mount Akra, 680, the seventh lodge, was instituted in 1922. Akron Council 80 of R. & S. M., was chartered in 1897 and on September 22, 1924, the Tadmor Temple of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine was instituted. The total enrollment of the Masonic lodges in Akron is now 6,110, while the two chapters of the Eastern Star, Elva and Billow chapters, number 1,300 ladies.

In the first charter in 1841 are found such pioneer names as Rufus P. Spaulding, Eliakim Crosby, Henry Rhodes, Justus Gale and others, and among past masters in early years occur such local historical names as L. V. Bierce, Dr. Thos. McEbright, Richard P. Marvin, B. F. Battles, Joseph Hugill, J. C. McMillen, A. P. Baldwin, Edward and Charles Sumner and Watrous Mather.

In early years the Masonic lodges occupied various quarters on Howard st., and for many years the old Masonic Temple at Howard and Mill sts., was the home of Masonry. The present Temple on Mill and High sts., was occupied in October, 1918. It is an imposing stone structure of seven stories, six of which are devoted to Masonic uses.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows

Following the Masons, the next fraternal order to secure an Akron charter was the Odd Fellows, of which the oldest lodge, Summit No. 50, was organized in September, 1845. The first Akron Encampment was instituted in 1846. Apollo lodge dates from the same year. Akron No. 547 was instituted in 1873, and Nemo in 1886. The Canton Akron No. 2 of Patriarchs Militant was mustered in January, 1886, and this with its Ladies' auxiliary, Corona No. 2, together with Granite Lodge and two Rebekah lodges, completes the organization in Akron, which has a total enrollment of more than 3,000.

The old Odd Fellows Temple on Main st., has been a landmark since the early 1890's. In the year 1918 this was sold, and a new home was purchased on East Mill st., at the corner of Union, facing Union Park.

Among Akron pioneers who have been active Odd Fellows, are found the following: H. G. Canfield, F.

A. Wilcox, B. T. Wills, D. F. Berger, A. G. Keck, W. H. Rook, Sr., A. C. Bachtel, and A. W. Hawkins.

Knights of Pythias

The first local lodge of the Knights of Pythias, Aetolia, was organized in 1871. This has grown to be one of the largest subordinate lodges in the state, with 1,100 members. There are now about 2,000 Knights in Akron's four lodges, besides the two Temples of the Pythian Sisters, which are also among the leading temples in Ohio. There are also three uniform rank companies here, Akron being headquarters of the 12th Regiment, known as the best equipped and best drilled military rank unit in the United States. In a competition among eight states at the Pittsburgh encampment in 1924, the Akron companies won the prize of $2,500. The local Knights of Khorassan, composed of Pythians, includes some of Akron's prominent citizens.

The new Pythian Temple on High st., of which the lodges occupy three floors, is equipped and furnished in splendid style, and is a home in which to take pride.

Elks

Akron lodge No. 363 of B. P. O. E., is one which has taken an active part in Akron's social and civic life. The Elks' home on South High st., built in 1916, is a four-story brick and stone edifice, and it affords handsome and commodious quarters, with dining rooms, ladies' rooms and bowling alleys. The local was organized in July, 1897, and the present membership totals about 1,100. Roy B Meade is Exalted Ruler.

Eagles

Akron Aerie No. 555 of the Fraternal Order of Eagles was organized in December, 1903, and moved

into its own home, a handsome brick building of three stories on East Market st., in April, 1919. The Worthy President is Joseph Francis, and J. M. Garrett is secretary. The enrollment is about 3,600, and, in addition, the Ladies' Auxiliary includes about 150 ladies.

Moose

The Loyal Order of Moose is represented in Akron by one lodge, Akron No. 62 and by Chapter 254 of the Women's Mooseheart Legion. The local was organized in 1908. The home of the Moose was in South Howard st., until 1911. They were then located successively in the Nantucket Building and at 41 East Mill st., until in 1920 they occupied their present roomy floors in the Doyle Block. Present enrollment is 1,650 in addition to 150 ladies. W. Oliver Wise was first Dictator. The present Dictator is Lee R. Miller, and George Ault is secretary.

The Junior Order of United American Mechanics together with its sister order, the Daughters of America is a popular and influential organization, and the Knights of Maccabees, Modern Woodmen of America, improved Order of Red Men and others have been active in the community's fraternal life.

Knights of Columbus

The Akron Council No. 547 of Knights of Columbus, received its charter in November, 1900. The late Fr. T. F. Mahar was first Chaplain and A. G. Kaufman first Grand Knight. After occupying quarters for several years in the Doyle Block, in 1920, the Council exchanged property which it owned on Fir st., for the old Paul E. Werner home at 282 West Market st., which it has since occupied. Plans are under way for a new auditorium to serve as a Catholic social center.

One of the council's memorable activities was the

raising of its fund of $104,000 for the Knights of Columbus community fund in the World War. Present officers are Rev. Fr. J. S. O'Keefe, Chaplain, and G. A. Rohner, Grand Knight. The original membership of 52 has grown to a present roster of 800 members.

B'nai B'rith

The local section of the Independent Order of B'nai B'rith, an important Jewish order, was established in 1912 with H. D. Fuerst as president. There are now about 250 members in Akron, and the local body contributes to the support of the Jewish Orphans' Home in Cleveland, the National Home for Consumptives in Denver and other similar institutions. L. D. Freiberg, I. H. Birnbaum, Samuel Friedman and the late Maurice Krohngold, have served as head of the organization. Mr. Fuerst holds the office again in 1925. Meetings are held in the Temple Israel on Merriman Road.

Other fraternal organizations in Akron include the following:

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; Colored Masons; Grand United Order of Odd Fellows; Colored K. of P.; Royal Arcanum; Protected Home Circle; Sons and Daughters of St. George; Scottish Clans; Foresters; Modern Woodmen of the World; Woodmen's Circle; American Woodmen and Improved Order of Woodmen; Knights of Malta; United Workers; Sons of Herman; Knights and Ladies of Security; United Commercial Travelers; American Yeomen; Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen; Owls; Orioles; Oaks; American Insurance Union; Tribe of Ben Hur; Security Benefit Association; Ladies' Catholic Benefit Association; Knights of St. John; Catholic Knights of Ohio; Hibernians; St. Bernard's Society; St. Joseph's Benevolent Society; Association of Letter Carriers;

Daughters of Jerusalem; German, Italian, Polish, Hungarian and other foreign societies.

The German societies have exerted an important influence during Akron's history in its social and especially its musical life. The Akron Liedertafel was organized in 1855 and has had a varied and successful history. The first saengerfest to be held in Akron was in 1880; a second occurred in 1904 and at this time the German-American Hall, or Music Hall was dedicated. The third saengerfest was held in 1923 in the Armory. The Liedertafel home on East Exchange was dedicated in 1914, but construction is now under way for a new and larger building. The Akron Turnverein dates back over forty years and is a leading German society.

Akron Civic Organizations—

The Chamber of Commerce

Undoubtedly some first-class city boosting was done in those early days when Middlebury, Akron and Cascade city carried on a three-cornered rivalry for supremacy, and certainly on such stirring occasions as the visit of John Quincy Adams or Horace Greeley, citizens' associations outdid themselves in welcoming the distinguished guests. But probably there was nothing known as a Board of Trade or Chamber of Commerce; in fact both of these terms meant at that period something entirely distinct from civic enterprise.

But about 1869 an Akron Board of Trade had actual existence, and carried on negotiations which resulted in the locating here of Dr. B. F. Goodrich and his rubber project. In the 1880's the old Akron Union Club, rather luxuriously located and equipped in the old Bartges home on East Market st., at present, site

of the Post Office, enjoyed a period of importance in local affairs—then went out of action.

Several earnest but futile attempts were made to effect a permanent organization, and a prominent place in the civic life of the town was held for several years by the old Builders' Exchange, which used to hold meetings in the Elks' Club at 41 East Mill st. It was a group of Builders' Exchange members, including such men as C. E. Sheldon, A. H. Noah, J. Edward Good and the late Col. J. C. Bloomfield who organized about 1904 the Akron Chamber of Commerce of that day, which attained a membership of about 500 and was quite active, but finally became defunct.

It was not until 1907 that a revival of interest on the part of some of this same group resulted in the forming, along carefully planned lines, of the organization which was incorporated in November, 1907, as the Akron Chamber of Commerce—the present organization—whose object and purposes, as set forth in the charter granted by the Secretary of State were to be "...by joint and concerted action to develop, foster and protect the commercial, manufacturing and civic interests, and to promote the general welfare of the city of Akron."

The late Ohio C. Barber was made president and John J. Starr and Roy H. Nesbitt in turn acted as temporary secretary. Very soon the membership reached 750, and Vincent S. Stevens, then assistant secretary of the Detroit Board of Commerce, was employed as secretary of the local Chamber, and has filled the position continuously up to the present time. In November, 1908, Byron W. Robinson was elected to succeed Mr. Barber, but died the following month and Charles B. Raymond was chosen to fill out his term and then was re-elected as full term president for 1909-10. The successive presidents down to the pres-

ent time have been as follows:—Frank A. Seiberling, Sam F. Ziliox, J. Edward Good, Fred M. Harpham, George D. Bates, George W. Crouse, Crannell Morgan, Charles W. Seiberling, Elmer E. Workman, Bert A. Polsky, J. B. Huber, Fred W. Albrecht, Jerome Dauby, Charles Herberich and James G. Robertson. The membership now totals about 2,700.

The Chamber of Commerce has always been active in efforts to advance the general welfare of the city and has taken a leading position in movements resulting in the following public improvements:—

New Water Works system; Sewage Disposal plant; Plans for railroad grade crossing elimination;

City Plan for Akron; Building Code; Zoning Ordinance;

Parks for Akron; Improved roads for Summit county; Viaducts; Street widening; White Way lighting; Municipal Golf Course;

Municipal University; Springfield Lake Sanatorium; Akron Armory;

Legislation for industrial reservoir in Tuscarawas river valley; Improvements to canal and Portage Lakes;

Appropriation for new Postoffice; plans for new Union Depot;

Expansion of city limits and water, sewer, paving and other public service systems;

New Industries for Akron; campaign against bovine tuberculosis in Summit county;

Legislation to provide for city airplane landing field and the commercial development of helium gas for airship use.

Organization of County Farm Bureau, Charity Organization Society, Bureau of Municipal Research, and Better Akron Federation, were also assisted by the Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber of Commerce is organized into committees, bureaus and auxiliaries. The current yearbook lists 32 committees whose studies and interests cover every phase of local life—social, civic, educational, industrial and commercial, and whose recommendations when approved by the Board of Directors, are submitted to the consideration of city and county officials.

The Bureau of Municipal Research, a department of the Chamber since 1923 assists the various committees through study and research, and also co-operates with city and county official departments and with many social and educational agencies.

The Transportation Department assists local shippers in solving their individual problems, and represents the community transportation interests before the railroads and legislative and other bodies.

The Industrial Bureau not only offers assistance to established industries but seeks to increase the diversity of Akron manufacturers by locating additional industries in the city.

The Foreign Trade Bureau is a branch office of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the U. S. Department of Commerce, and serves local exporters with their problems of marketing and shipping.

Through membership in the Chamber of Commerce of the U. S. A., the International Chamber of Commerce, Ohio Chamber of Commerce and other state and national bodies, the Akron Chamber is enabled to represent the community's interests in discussions and movements of state-wide, national and world-wide scope.

Akron Merchants Association

The Akron Merchants Association was organized as an auxiliary of the Chamber of Commerce in 1909.

Although its interest is largely a group interest, it has concerned itself with many public problems and co-operated in many civic movements. Some of its principal departments are:—Advertising and Solicitation; Adjustment Bureau; Statistical; Co-operative Window Trimming; and it has member boards as follows:—Jewelers' Twenty-four Carat Club; Retail Clothiers' Board; Retail Coal Dealers Association; and Retail Hardware Division. It has a membership list of 180 merchants. It also contacts with the state and national fields through its various affiliations.

The first president was M. O'Neil, and many prominent merchants have headed its activities. E. W. Chamberlin is president in 1925. Jack Moore is secretary, and headquarters are located in the United Building.

East Akron Board of Trade

The East Akron Board of Trade was organized in 1921 and has in 1925, 500 members. It has carried on a successful work in promoting the welfare and guiding the development of East Akron. J. L. Hower served as first president, and he was succeeded by Marvin M. Mell who served for three years. The present officers are:—George E. Pfarr, president; Carl J. Arnold, secretary.

Other Sectional Civic Organizations

In different sections of Akron, local bodies have organized to foster the growth, development and special interests of their localities. Among these are the following: North Akron Board of Trade, South Akron Board of Trade, Firestone Park Civic Association, Goodyear Heights Civic Association, Margaret Park Civic Association, Spicertown Club.

Service Clubs

Akron has six service clubs, the oldest of which, the Rotary Club, was organized in February, 1914. M. E. Harpster was the first president and George N. Hawkins, secretary. The roster includes 160 members, and the present officers are: Charles W. Seiberling, president; C. F. Meese, secretary-treasurer.

Under the motto "He profits most who serves best," the Rotary Club has taken a leading part in civic affairs, and is particularly interested in work for the crippled children of the city.

The Kiwanis Club is next in seniority, having been organized in April, 1916. The original officers were: —W. L. McCormick, president, and J. T. Blair, secretary. The membership list includes 144 men active in business and professional lines, and George H. Meyers is now president, and Philip P. Gott, secretary. The Kiwanis Club is sponsor for the Florence Crittendon Home for unwed mothers, which it built and equipped. The club has recently made donations of furniture for the children's room at Springfield Lake Sanatorium and recreational equipment for the Summit County Children's Home.

The Exchange Club of Akron dates from September, 1918, when the organization was effected with Joseph B. Sieber as first president and Earl E. Cahoon as secretary. Mr. Cahoon's service has been uninterrupted up to the present. Winfred E. Fouse was recently elected president for the year. The membership now totals 96. As one of its main activities the Exchange Club has promoted the continuation school at Perkins Normal, where about fifty subnormal boys from the different grade schools are given special attention and instruction, in lines of study suited to them.

The Lions Club, organized in 1920, has 92 mem-

bers. Dow Harter was the first president and W. J. Wettereau, secretary. Carl Angne served as secretary for three succeeding years, and A. G. Knoske was elected in 1923. Hurl J. Albrecht is president at this time. Service to blind adults and sight-saving for school children occupy the attention of the Lions. At the Bowen school where the Board of Education provides quarters, the Lions club with financial assistance from the state, provides teachers and equipment for special instruction to children whose vision is so defective that they can make no progress in the regular grade school classes.

The Optimists, one of the younger clubs, was organized in March, 1923, and now has about 90 members. George W. Rogers was first president and Frank O'Neil, secretary. Adam J. Guth was the next president and Harry Levering now holds the chair, with A. F. Summy as secretary. The Optimists have been busy promoting a Newsboys' Club with quarters at the Y. M. C. A., where the boys are given opportunities for social life, recreation and physical training they would not otherwise enjoy.

The Civitan Club was also organized in 1923, and has a membership of about 50. W. B. McIntosh, I. S. Myers and W. D. Barnhart have been successively president, and Jack Moore is secretary. "Builders of Good Citizenship" is the slogan of the Civitans, and with this aim in view they have co-operated in establishing and maintaining Camp Manatoc, near Akron, for the local Boy Scouts.

The service clubs are correlated through an inter-club council, and with their membership of about 600 they are able to exert a tremendous influence in the community.

Akron City Club

The Akron City Club is one of the important institutions in this city. Organized in 1915, it now has 650 local and 150 non-resident members, and occupies the three upper floors of the Ohio Building. Though a social club only, it has performed a unique public service through the affiliation of its members in important civic and community work, and by affording a meeting place for luncheons, committees, and conferences. Sam F. Ziliox was the first president, and L. B. Terry now holds the chair. M. D. Stauffer has been secretary and house manager during the club's history.

University Club

The University Club, with a membership of about 600, has taken an active place in the city's social, intellectual and community life. It began in 1909 in rooms over Rohleder's store on East Market street, and after being temporarily housed in the Hilbish home and the Seiberling home, moved in 1918 into its own magnificent home on Fir st. Harry E. Andress is president of the Club and Frederick Mayer, Jr., secretary. Interest and co-operation in every movement towards a better and greater Akron have marked the club's policy.

Country Clubs

The oldest of Akron's Country Clubs is the Portage Country Club, which had its origin about thirty years ago, when a group of golf enthusiasts used to play on the old Perkins farm on Maple street. About 1905 the club was incorporated and the grounds on North Portage Path which now include 115 acres, were purchased. The old club house which burned in 1921, has been replaced by a new and beautiful home. The membership is about 500, and Stacy G. Carkhuff is

president, John S. Knight secretary, and N. G. Plummer, manager.

Other important country clubs are the Fairlawn club and Rosemont, on Medina road.

Cemetery Associations

The Middlebury cemetery association formed in 1853 laid out what is now the East Akron cemetery. Located in the heart of East Akron, the grounds are well kept, and the community mausoleum located on the knoll at the east end gives it a special dignity. This burial ground superseded the old pioneer ground on Newton st. Another important early cemetery was the Spicer cemetery which occupied part of the present University grounds. In 1871 all of the bodies were removed to Glendale, and the site was made the location of Buchtel College.

The Akron Rural Cemetery Association, operating Glendale cemetery, was incorporated in 1839 by Col. Simon Perkins, Jedediah Commins and others, Col. Perkins serving as first president continuously for 41 years. The Association purchased twenty acres of land and in 1850 the city ceded to them 6½ acres which it owned on Maple st. Other additions have increased the area to about 70 acres, beautifully landscaped and containing many noble monuments.

The Memorial chapel, a memorial to Summit county boys who fell in the Civil War is to be credited largely to the work of Buckley Post. This was dedicated in 1876. The Ladies' Cemetery Association, organized in 1866 has been instrumental in beautifying the cemetery and in the construction of the superintendent's lodge. The ladies' association also built the Gothic bell tower on the knoll above the chapel.

Glendale also contains the bodies removed from the old ground north of Furnace st., in 1873.

Adjoining Glendale is the German Catholic cemetery. Mount Peace cemetery owned by the German Reformed church, is located on Aqueduct st., overlooking the valley, and is a beautiful tract. St. Vincent's cemetery lies on West Market st., opposite Merriman road.

Rose Hill Burial Ground on Medina road, was laid out in 1920 and comprises 65 acres of land. This is beautifully planned and is the site of the memorial monument erected by the Veterans of Foreign Wars to Akron's war heroes.

Welfare Work in Akron

By W. E. Young

TO THOSE who are familiar with modern methods of administering charity and performing welfare work generally, it is a long and tedious way from the workhouse in which Oliver Twist first saw the light of day to the Crittenden Homes and Maternity Hospitals in which infants whose fathers are in most cases unknown, except to the unfortunate mothers who give them birth, are ushered into a cold and unfeeling, if not at times an actually hostile world; and yet it is only three-quarters of a century ago that Summit county ceased to farm out the keep of its poor to the lowest bidder.

In 1849 the County Commissioners purchased one hundred and fifty acres of land at the southeast corner of West Market st. and Portage Path road and converted the buildings thereon, with some additions which were made thereto, into a county Poor House. Later adjoining tracts were acquired until the Poor Farm comprised about two hundred and thirty acres. In 1864 there was built at the southeast corner of West Exchange st. and the present Rose boulevard, at a cost of about $20,000, a palatial county infirmary. Many Akron people will recall this building and the infirmary farm which included the greater part of what is now Sunset View and Elm Hills Allotments, as well as that portion of West Hill south of Market st. and west of Marvin av.

The present county home, located at Monroe Falls, is one of the finest institutions of its kind in the state.

In the early 80's was made the first attempt, in a systematic way, to administer private, as distinguish-

ed from public, charity. Two societies were organized, one known as the "Akron Board of Charities" and the other as the "Women's Benevolent Association." Lane's History of Akron and Summit County gives January 13, 1885, as the date of the organization of the former, but fails to mention when the latter was organized. We are inclined to believe, from talks had with several of its charter members, that the Women's Association was the pioneer in this field.

That the aims of the founders of the Board of Charities was not one whit different from those of our present day organizations, is shown by their statement in its constitution, as follows: "1. To see that all deserving cases of destitution are properly relieved. 2. To prevent indiscriminate and duplicate giving. 3. To make the securing of employment for those able to work, the basis of relief. 4. To secure the community from imposture. 5. To reduce vagrancy and pauperism, and to ascertain their true causes."

In 1889 these two organizations were consolidated as a corporate body not for profit, under the name of "The Union Charity Association of Akron." There were eighteen incorporators, among whom were such well-known citizens as Colonel Arthur L. Conger, Ferdinand Schumacher and Ohio C. Barber. As far as we have been able to ascertain, the only ones now living are Mrs. R. H. Wright, Mrs. Laura K. Fraunfelter, wife of Doctor Elias Fraunfelter, late superintendent of schools, and Mrs. Sumner Nash.

The Women's Benevolent Association was the owner and occupier of a property then known as the "Home," located on South High st., immediately north of the present Pythian Temple. The consolidated organization occupied this home, afterwards known as "Grace House," until 1906, when it was given to the

Young Women's Christian Association, which, from time to time, has added to the building in order to take care of the increased demands made upon it by reason of Akron's marvelous growth.

Although the consolidation of Akron's two charity organizations in 1889 shows that, at that early date, its welfare workers realized the great benefit to be derived from unified effort, by 1912, there were more than thirty agencies attempting to dispense charity to and do welfare work among Akron's needy and under-privileged people. Awakened to the wastefulness and futility of such a system, the leaders in the work, after three or four years of effort, finally succeeded in combining these various associations into a single corporate body, known as the "Charity Organization Society of Akron." The directorate included twenty-five of the best known charity and social welfare workers in the city, many of whom were prominent in its business and industrial life. The officers were: President, F. A. Seiberling; vice-president, Harvey S. Firestone; treasurer, Henry B. Manton.

An arrangement was made with the city, by which its Director of the Department of Public Charities became the general secretary of the Society. W. S. Bixby, an experienced social worker of New York, was chosen for the position, which he has ably and successfully filled to the present time.

We regret exceedingly that the space allotted us will not permit even mentioning, let alone giving in detail, the work done by the many persons who gave generously and unstintedly of their time and money to this cause. Mention must be made, however, of Uncle Joe Kendall, who for more than thirty years was Akron's "Poor Director." In fact, for many years he was practically Akron's whole charity association. Mention should also be made of the late Mrs. A. K.

Fouser, James H. Seymour, and John C. Weber, who was Mr. Kendall's successor as Poor Director.

Present Welfare Organizations

AKRON CITY HOSPITAL.—In 1883 Boniface DeRoo, a native of France, but for many years a citizen of Akron, died, leaving his entire fortune amounting to about $10,000, to found a hospital in the City of Akron. With additions to this fund, made by public spirited citizens, the Bartges homestead on East Market st. was purchased in 1891 and Akron's first hospital was opened. One of the donors to this fund, Thomas W. Cornell, was its first president. In 1904 Ohio C. Barber built, at a cost of $200,000, and presented to the city, the present main building. The grounds, buildings and equipment of the Akron City Hospital are now valued at more than $1,000,000. In its first year, 1893, it cared for 143 patients; in 1924 for 4,841. Judge Charles C. Benner is now its president and Mr. Arden E. Hardgrove its superintendent.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AND MARY DAY NURSERY.—These deservedly popular institutions are the successors of two circles of the "Daughters of the King," originally formed at the instigation of Mrs. Mary Rawson, mother of Mrs. George T. Perkins. Four of the charter members are still living and are active in the work of both the nursery and the hospital, namely, Mary Perkins Raymond, honorary president; Miss Carita McEbright, Mrs. Maude Waters Milar and Mrs. Lizzie Griffin Jacobs.

Colonel George T. Perkins donated the house and lot at the northeast corner of Buchtel av. and High st. to the organization, then known as the Akron Day Nursery. About this time the name was changed to Mary Day Nursery in honor of Colonel Perkins' first grandchild, Mary Perkins Raymond, now Mrs. W. H.

Yule of Santa Barbara, Cal. It first started as a day nursery and kindergarten, and gradually expanded to include a hospital and a district nursing service. In 1924, 140 children were enrolled at the nursery and 1500 patients were treated in the hospital. Mrs. Francis Seiberling is president, Arthur O. Bause is general superintendent, and Miss Lulu M. Tuttle Supervisor of nurses.

PEOPLE'S HOSPITAL.—This much needed addition to Akron's hospital service was organized in 1914. It was incorporated with a capital stock of $150,000. Its first president was the late Doctor W. W. Leonard. On March 1, 1915, this finely equipped hospital building, with a capacity of nearly 200 beds, together with a separate home for nurses, was opened. In 1924, an addition to the nurses' home, costing $32,000, and a maternity unit, costing approximately $200,000, were erected. To the People's Hospital belongs the unique distinction of having, for the past five or six years, lived within its income. Its receipts are sufficient to pay its entire operating expenses and it has no indebtedness. Francis Seiberling is president, Woodward H. Reed, general manager, and Miss Clara Brouse directress of nurses.

THE AKRON YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—This Association was organized in 1870, with B. C. Herrick as its first president. Its first quarters were in the old Academy of Music building, on the site of the present Everett building. It was not until 1882 that a general secretary was employed who devoted his whole time to the work. In 1885 J. Newton Gunn, afterwards president of the United States Rubber Company, was employed as secretary. The quarters, consisting of a reading and social room, were at that time in the old Masonic building at the corner of Howard and Mill sts.

A building campaign, resulting in the raising of $125,000, was conducted in 1902 and, out of the proceeds, the site at the corner of Main and State sts. was purchased and the present building erected thereon. This building and its equipment, considered at the time of its erection amply sufficient to take care of the needs of the Association for many years to come, has, owing to Akron's growth, become woefully inadequate, and it will be incumbent upon the people of Akron, in the very near future, to furnish means for the erection of a modern Y. M. C. A. building. The president is George Oenslager, and the general secretary is Halley T. Waller.

THE AKRON YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—This institution was organized in 1901. Its first quarters were in the Garfield Hotel building on South High st. It started with 299 charter members and now has a membership of 2204. Its first president was Mrs. D. P. Wheeler. Two of its original board of eighteen directors are members and directors of its present board, namely, Mrs. J. B. Wright, second vice president, and Mrs. B. F. Andrews, treasurer. In 1904 the Union Charity Association gave Grace House to the Young Women's Christion Association, where it has had its home ever since. In his will, Colonel George T. Perkins left $50,000 as a perpetual endowment with which to carry on the work of the Y. W. C. A.

In addition to quarters on South High st., the association also maintains a Girls' Dormitory, known as "Blue Triangle," at 149 South Union st. A site at the corner of High and Bowery sts., for a new building, large enough to accommodate all the association's varied activities, has been acquired. The association's present quarters are no credit to a city of the size and wealth of Akron and are wholly inade-

quate to the association's needs. Our public spirited citizens must, ere long, raise an amount sufficient to erect for the association a modern and up-to-date building. Mrs. George W. Crouse is president and Miss Edith Nash is general secretary.

THE FLORENCE CRITTENTON HOME.—As is generally known, the first Crittenton Home was opened by Charles Crittenton many years ago in New York City and was named after his daughter Florence. The Akron home is located at 51 Cotter av. and was opened about twenty years ago. In addition to this home, to which incorrigible girls who show promise of responding to humane treatment and leading better lives are admitted, a maternity home, at which unmarried women, about to become mothers, are admitted, is maintained on Brittain road.

The home on Cotter av. has accommodations for fifteen girls and is generally filled to capacity. The president is J. J. Fuedner and the matron is Miss Carrie Chapman.

THE JEWISH SOCIAL SERVICE FEDERATION.—This Association was organized in 1914 as the Federation of Jewish Charities, with the late Morris Krohngold as president. In 1918 its membership had increased from 100 to 600 and its budget from $3,000 to $15,000. In 1919 it adopted its present name and affiliated itself with the Better Akron Federation. On its present board of sixteen trustees are many of the city's leading Jewish professional and business men. Its president is J. H. Birnbaum; secretary, Miss Malvyn Wachner.

THE CATHOLIC SERVICE LEAGUE.—This League was organized in 1919 to do social service work among the Catholics in Akron and Summit county. Its first president was M. O'Neil and its sec-

retary Reverend Father R. C. Kotheimer. It was later organized as a corporation not for profit. While organized principally as a Family Case Working Agency, it also maintains a community house and office at 245 to 249 South High st. and a recreational hall on Furnace st. It employs a staff of fourteen workers. The president is William A. Walsh; general secretary and treasurer E. C. McQueeney, and its field secretary Miss Mary D. Kearns.

BOY SCOUTS.—In 1910 Reverend H. W. Lowrey of the First Presbyterian Church organized the first Boys' Scout troop in Akron. It was not until 1916 that the movement became firmly established. At this time sufficient funds were raised among those directly interested in the movement to employ the late Joe Taylor as scout executive. Taylor was a natural leader of boys and extremely popular. Under his regime scouting grew and flourished like the proverbial green bay tree. In 1920 he was succeeded by the present executive, D. M. Ramsay. There are now forty troops in Akron, with an enrollment of 1,150 scouts. The first president was R. E. Lee, and the present president is Walter T. Akers. Lack of space forbids our mentioning all the men who were instrumental in placing scouting on a firm footing in Akron. We must, however, record the name of C. W. Seiberling, known as the "Big Brother of the Boy Scouts" of Akron. Mention should also be made of the generosity of H. Karl Butler who, in 1922, gave the scouts the use of his farm near Peninsula for a permanent camp. Through the generosity of the Civitan Club, Portage Path Home and School League, contributions from the Community Fund and from many individuals, this camp, known as Manatoc, has been finely equipped.

GIRL SCOUTS.—The first Girl Scout organiza-

tion in Akron was instituted through the efforts of I. S. Myers during the period of the World War. Four years ago the Akron and Summit County Girl Scout Council was organized. There are some 26 troops with a membership of 650 in the county. The organization is governed by a general council of 33 members from which an executive board of twelve members is chosen. Many of Akron's most prominent social service workers are members of these committees. The work done by this organization among the girls of Summit county compares favorably in every way with that done among the boys by the Boy Scout leaders.

THE BETTER AKRON FEDERATION.—The Better Akron Federation was the outgrowth of the War Chest and Liberty Loan drives, made during the World War, at which time Akron citizens met every demand made upon them, whether for the raising of funds for work among the soldiers, or in the purchasing of the various issues of liberty bonds. On October 9, 1919, a preliminary meeting, called by Theodore E. Smith, was held, at which, in order to prevent promiscuous solicitation for unworthy, as well as worthy causes, to avoid indiscriminate and duplicate giving and to combine all efforts into one campaign each year, plans were made for organizing a permanent body to take over the work of soliciting and distributing funds with which to finance, each year, Akron's various charitable and social welfare activities.

At a meeting, held on October 20, 1919, the Better Akron Federation was organized and a board of twenty directors elected. This board afterwards chose J. Edward Good as its first president. Since its organization it has, each year, in the month of November, conducted a campaign for the raising of a community fund. Preceding the campaign, the budget

committee, chosen by the board of trustees, meets with a committee from each of the activities supported by the fund and a budget is worked out, in which there is allotted to each activity its fair share, as determined by the budget committee, of the entire amount to be raised.

Fifteen thousand people subscribed to the fund in the first campaign. In the campaign conducted in November, 1924, there were over fifty thousand subscribers who contributed a total of more than $400,000. Eighteen organizations, including practically all those mentioned in this article, are beneficiaries of this fund, and the Better Akron Federation has become one of our fixed and best supported institutions. The president is Elmer E. Workman, and the executive secretary E. J. Larrick, who has served in that capacity since 1921.

SPRINGFIELD LAKE SANITORIUM.—While the Sanitorium is not an Akron institution exclusively, its history and work are so closely interwoven with the city's progress along the lines of health and welfare that failure to speak at least briefly of its organization, its aims and its accomplishments, would be an unpardonable oversight. Under an act of the General Assembly, passed 1908, authorizing the same, the four counties of Summit, Portage, Stark and Columbiana (Mahoning coming in later), joined, in 1910, in the erection of a tuberculosis sanitorium at Springfield Lake, Summit county. Ninety-eight acres of land, costing $10,000, were purchased and a building, costing $112,000, was erected. The governing body consisted of one trustee from each county, appointed by its county commissioners. Summit county's first trustee was W. A. Johnston. Dissension arising among the members of the board as to the management of the institution and the number of patients

each county was entitled to have admitted thereto, Summit county, in 1920, purchased the interest of the other four counties, the voters of the county having authorized an issue of bonds in the sum of $300,000, the proceeds of which were used for making the purchase. In 1922 another issue of bonds, in the sum of $300,000, was authorized by the electors for the purpose of erecting a children's building. This building, the famous Sunshine Cottage, and a nurses' home have been completed at a cost of about $340,000. Sunshine Cottage has a capacity of one hundred patients, and the entire sanitorium of 230.

To E. C. Shaw is largely due this magnificent institution, the existence of which has added so materially to the health and general welfare of our community. Its superintendent is Doctor C. L. Hyde, one of the most eminent specialists in the treatment and cure of tuberculosis in the country. The present trustees are E. C. Shaw, E. C. McQueeney and C. W. Seiberling.

THE SALVATION ARMY. — The Salvation Army first opened its quarters in Akron in 1855, with Staff Captain Inman in charge. Forty soldiers answered to the roll call in the first year. So greatly were the purposes of the Army misunderstood that its meetings on several occasions were broken up by mobs and the police were called in to protect the soldiers from violence. In 1916 the citadel on North Main st. was erected. At the present time more than 400 soldiers are enrolled. During the past year relief in some form or other was given to 1791 families and to 28,120 persons; 10,319 meals were furnished and 2849 nights' lodgings supplied. Field Major Joseph Hughes and wife, known and beloved by all Akron people, have been in charge of the citadel for the past ten years. A Social Service center is main-

tained at 319 Washington st., with Ensign and Mrs. Hugh McIlvar in charge, and a Swedish corps at 1104 Johnston st., under command of Ensign T. Tornquist and Captain A. Johnson.

CHILDREN'S RECREATIONAL AND PLAYGROUNDS.—Supervised and equipped playgrounds for Akron children were established in 1910, the first being located at Perkins Square. Within two years three additional playgrounds were opened at Pleasant Park, Perkins Park and Buchtel Field. The starting of this work was due in a great measure to the late Margaret C. Barnhart, to whom a bronze tablet has been erected in Perkins Woods, bearing the following inscription: "Erected by the children of Akron as a tribute to Margaret C. Barnhart, in grateful recognition of her services in establishing public playgrounds." The movement was financed originally by private subscription. In 1919 it was included in the budget of the Better Akron Federation and, in 1921, the Board of Education of the city of Akron took over the work and has since conducted it, financing the same out of the public school funds.

A tract of about 30 acres, known as Elizabeth Park, was donated to the city for children's playgrounds and recreation purposes by F. H. Mason in 1912. Mr. W. H. Seitz has been employed since 1919 by the Board as Supervisor of these playgrounds, eleven in number.

AMERICANIZATION WORK.—The first efforts toward Americanization work, so-called, among Akron's foreign population, were made in about 1910 by the Y. M. C. A., through J. Q. Ames, its general secretary, and Prof. O. E. Olin of Buchtel College.

The Community House on North Broadway, near Furnace st., under the direction of W. J. Huntoon, with the assistance of individual philanthropy, was

also quite active in this branch of social service. In 1912, at the time H. T. Waller became General Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., a committee, headed by J. C. Lawrence, effected a co-operative movement of all agencies then engaged in this work, and for three years it was conducted at the Community House, Bowen School, Kent School, Leggett School, Miller School and the Y. M. C. A. Supervision was under the direction of H. T. Waller, general secretary of the Y. M. C. A., and the work was done by a corps of some fifty volunteer teachers.

In 1915 the Chamber of Commerce financed the work through the Board of Education. This continued until 1917, when the Board of Education took over the responsibility for Americanization work, since which time it assumed entire charge thereof, performing, in the judgment of those at all familiar with the matter, one of the most constructive and effective pieces of Americanization work in the country.

In 1916 and 1917, the industries of Akron conducted schools, largely attended, for the teaching of English to our foreigners. After the War, however, the work for the most part was discontinued; the entire problem being left to the Board of Education. Two very marked features of this work have been the home work, reaching the foreign women, and the training of candidates for citizenship, the beneficial results of which have been invaluable to our community.

RED CROSS.—A charter was granted to the Akron Chapter of the American Red Cross on June 28, 1916, and C. B. Raymond was the first chairman. The Women's Auxiliary was organized at about the same time, with Miss Mary E. Gladwin as chairman. A campaign for membership was conducted in 1917, resulting in securing 40,000 members in Akron, break-

ing all records in the United States, for cities of over 1,000 inhabitants.

During the war the Red Cross performed notable service in looking after the families and dependents of enlisted men from Summit county. The chairman of the Women's Work Committee, during the war was the late Mrs. H. K. Raymond. The present chairman is George W. Billow. The headquarters, at 144 East Market st., are in charge of Miss Heloise Hendershot. The Akron Chapter is affiliated with and supported financially by the Better Akron Federation. It has at present a membership of approximately 1,000. Its chief work is looking after disabled ex-service men and their families. It has a record of 15,000 Summit county ex-service men.

AKRON HUMANE SOCIETY.—The Akron Humane Society was organized about 1901, with the late Albert T. Paige as its president, C. C. McCue as secretary, and Judge Charles C. Benner as counsel. Its present headquarters are located at room 709 Akron Savings & Loan building, with Judge W. E. Pardee as president, E. V. Switzer as humane agent, and Jonathan Taylor as counsel.

The principal work of the Humane Society is looking after cases of neglect or inhuman treatment of children, aged people, abandoned wives, and animals.

A report made in 1910 by the late John C. Webber, who was then humane agent, compared with one made in January of this year, by E. V. Switzer, the present humane agent, discloses a marked difference in some respects, as to the character of the work performed then and now.

Mr. Webber's report shows that, in the year 1910, he collected and distributed to wives and the guardians of children something over $12,000, while Humane Agent Switzer's report for 1924 shows that he

collected something over $48,000 and distributed it to wives and the guardians of children.

It must be apparent to readers of this history of Akron's growth and development in the past century, that none of the subjects covered, and especially one with so many ramifications as that of welfare work, can be adequately and thoroughly treated in the short time given for its preparation and in the few pages allotted to its presentation.

We know that many names worthy of mention in connection with this field of endeavor and perhaps some important phases of activity along these lines have been omitted entirely. We console ourselves with the thought, however, that, generally speaking, those unselfish enough to perform service of this character, or generous enough to contribute thereto, are usually the last to take offense because of an apparent lack of appreciation of their efforts. The satisfaction of having performed a valuable service to their community and its citizens is reward enough.

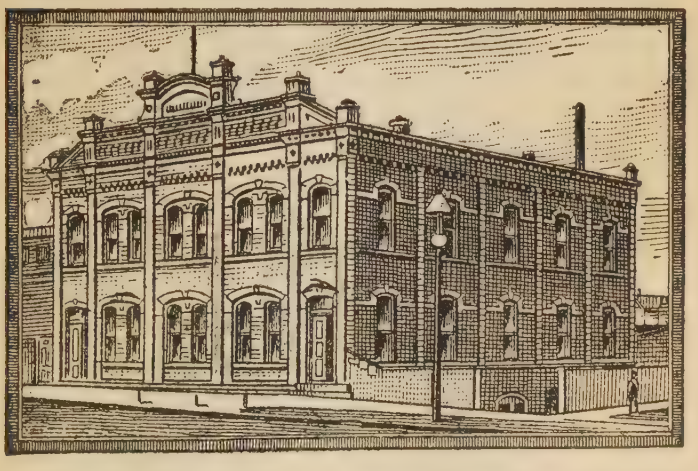
Yesterdays Around the City Hall

By Edward S. Harter

THIS narrative has to do only with such "yesterdays" around the City Hall as this generation of Akron citizenship has had contact. Such other yesterdays that are not forgotten live in local history. For beginning then of these remembered yesterdays go back to that bright day in May, 1881, when this city, to the amazement of its municipal neighbors, who were here in the persons of their mayors, staged a triple celebration to record its enterprise in building an electric lighting system, a water works plant, and a new city hall.

These undertakings in a single year marked a capacity for collective endeavor that earned this community its excellent repute for progress—a habit that has not abated to this day. The pride and civic spirit that welled up when Akron dedicated its North Hill viaduct had good example in that other occasion when Mayor S. A. Lane and David L. King, flanked by an array of citizens' committees whose names included every influential person identified with Akron life and industry, spoke to interested thousands, and after the ceremony of dedicating the new hall and public works, led all visitors upon an inspection tour of "the following places of interest in the order named:" The Empire works, Knife works, Buckeye works, Rolling Mill, Reservoir and Glendale cemetery. Take note that on this day of days, when Akron had its first real stirring of local pride so prophetic of mightier times to come, there were then no rubber mills accounted worthy of a visitor's interest. The big four of industry were the Empire, Buckeye, Knife works and Rolling mill, only one of which remains, and for collateral interest—Glendale cemetery.

Indeed, in those days, no sight-seeing pilgrimage ever started from City Hall without its visit to Glendale. It was as customary a thing for the city's guests as the practice, much in favor in World War days, when no distinguished borrower here from abroad ever omitted a flower-bearing processional to the tombs of our patriot ancestors. But it is recorded in the traditions of our yesterdays that one sojourner here changed the itinerary. In Akron to make a speech in his senatorial campaign, the Hon. John Sherman was invited by the campaign committee to visit beautiful Glendale. In utmost reverence the statesman answered, in substance: "Gentlemen, if it's all the same to you let us not visit the graveyard; I'm



The City Hall of 1881-1900; destroyed in the Akron riot. This was Akron's first city hall. Prior to 1881 the second floor of the old Central Engine House, which stood where the new City Hall is now under construction, was used as the Mayor's office and City Council Chamber. At a still earlier time the office of the mayor was wherever the then mayor happened to have offices. The town lock-up was on Federal st., near Main. Wm. Aungst furnished a police patrol wagon on contract at so much per call.

afraid there are no voters there. Let us take a trip to the mills!"

If the tranquility of the todays in City Hall is disturbed by occasional squawks from taxpayers, this generation of public servants has no monopoly on that misfortune. An unnamed taxpayer in 1881 published a circular rebuking the committee which had charge of the celebration of the building of the new city hall and light and water projects. He burlesqued the speeches of Mayor Lane, Gen. Leggett, Senator J. Park Alexander, Lewis Miller and Chairman King, and predicted that the undertakings in which they rejoiced with so much glory would "bankrupt the town." As usual with such prophecy nothing untoward happened. Ten years later Mayor Wm. H. Miller was pleased to report to his fellow citizens that Akron's bonded debt, under the prudent management of his administration and city council, did not exceed $8,000! The floating debt was almost too insignificant to mention.

In those days the whole work of public service was carried on by the mayor and city council, assisted by a town marshal, health officer and sanitary policeman and milk inspector. These were occasions when there was neither non-partisanism nor civil service in local government. The glory and spoils were for the victor. There were no popular primaries, and tickets were chosen in ward caucuses and delegate or mass city conventions. It was largely because of the turbulence of these methods, flowering in the administrations of Mayor E. R. Harper, Republican, and Mayor L. Dow Watters, Democrat, that gave Senator J. Park Alexander his inspiration to slip down to Columbus and have a friendly legislature pass the "ripper bill," setting up an administration by four non-partisan commissioners, appointed by the mayor and probate judge. One of the partisan chronicles of the time referred to the commissioners as "Akron's four kings, drawing a salary of six dollars a day."

It was under the administration of the commissioners that many of Akron's new public works were undertaken. A growing Akron needed paved streets and sewers, school houses, fire stations, parks and bridges, and it was not long until the $8,000 debt limit, source of the honest boast by Mayor Miller, went glimmering. It was the commissioners who gave the nation its first automobile police patrol wagon, constructed by Engineer Frank F. Loomis of the fire department. The patrol figured in many a campaign either as evidence of municipal progress or example of extravagance in high places, according to the partisan inclination of the viewer. It rumbled and rattled over stony streets until its career ended disastrously in the Ohio canal on the night of the riot and burning of the city hall. Whether the rioters had taken the car out for a joy ride, and it went into the canal through incompetent handling, or whether it was driven wilfully to its destruction as a then proper defiance for an instrument of the law, was never certified to the assurance of the police department. But it went the way of the Bastile.

In the very beginning of commission rule in Akron more trouble came to the partisan politics of the community than to its government. The theory of the new system was good, but in practice it did not work. A Republican probate judge and a Democratic mayor could not agree upon appointments. Then came the famous "deadlock," when Judge George M. Anderson declined to agree to the commissioners named by Mayor Wm. E. Young, and the old board held over.

These were times when local governments and not a state commission bargained for rates and terms of service and granted franchises to public service companies. Before the deadlock was broken Akron experienced a lively contest over the granting of a telephone franchise. It was this dispute that introduced Ohio to competition

in the telephone business. Senator Alexander, angered by the apparent haste and willingness of city council and the commissioners to grant a franchise upon terms that did not protect the rights of subscribers, organized the famous Citizens' Committee of Fifty. Before this committee was formed the senator had ripped his telephone from its housing on the wall and suspended it on a pole in front of his West Market st. home. This act served better than oratory to arouse the fighting spirit of the community. A citizens' delegation stormed the old city hall in such numbers that the floor of council chamber sagged and the meeting had to be adjourned. There was the first community movement in "safety first."

On the ground floor under the council chamber the chief executives of Akron held their famous Mayor's Courts. Police magistrates and police chiefs were then unknown. Akron continued to have its marshals until the coming of the federal plan. It is around this mayor's court room that most of the memories of yesterdays linger. Here Mayor Dow Watters dispensed both justice and philosophy in a way that gave him more than local fame and enabled him in a rock-ribbed Republican community to be elected its mayor as often as he wanted to be. To this day when politicians want to designate a good and popular campaigner it is sufficient to say that "he is another Dow Watters as a vote getter."

The city prison was housed in the basement under the mayor's court room, and reached by a causeway inclined from the corner of Market and Quarry sts. It was down this grade that the electric patrol careened to its doom. For near a score of years the late John Ackerman, and John E. Washer, the latter afterward prominent in federal secret service, served as keeper to the prisoners. In a room adjoining the mayor's court room the city marshals directed the activities of the police force, in Marshal Hughlin H. Harrison's and Wm. E. Mason's time a staff

that numbered less than twenty men. Out around Four Corners in South Akron, a tall young Irishman, graduate of the Akron rolling mill, was recruiting as a patrolman. Occasionally he paused on his beat to swap yarns with Newton Chisnell, an actor of renown, who spent his vacations in Akron. H. H. Harrison was Akron's first chief of police. John E. Durkin was Akron's second chief, and in spite of all stress and storm he still graces the job. Administrations come and go, but like his veteran colleague, John T. Mertz, head of the fire department, this public servant remains where the confidence of the community placed him.

One of the busiest sections of the city hall were the two rooms allotted to the Health department in days when Dr. A. A. Kohler was health officer and "Colonel" M. W. Hoye, sanitary policeman and milk inspector. In the middle nineties, when Akron had its smallpox scare, this division of government held dominion over the life and habits of the people that for efficiency was not surpassed by anything that happened in World War days. "Colonel" Hoye's daily bulletins prescribing a regimen for the people in the movement to stamp out the epidemic were attended as closely by the citizenship as any of Commissioner Herbert Hoover's well-known designations of meatless, wheatless and heatless days. But the program obtained results, and it was not long until Akron emerged in good health and spirit from its panic. How "Colonel" Hoye and Dr. Kohler ever managed for so many years, without a corps of assistants, to make a spotless town of Akron was one of the marvels of the time.

This era produced the well-known Mike Hoye fish frys for city officials, which developed an institutional phase. They were the first community banquets, combining the methods of a gridiron club and a board of trade. They both praised and roasted the faithful, and were excellent boosters for the town. They were an in-

cubator for incoming mayors, councilmen and commissioners. They endured until Portage lakes no longer produced an inexhaustible supply of black bass and blue gills, and until the legislature passed a law prohibiting the serving of these delicacies at public dinners.

Until his death Poor Director Joseph Kendall was a good official ministrant to the poor. For near a generation he was a familiar figure at City Hall, his broad face beaming kindness and charity. He was Akron's first "community chest." When the funds allotted to his department were not enough to go round he called for contributions from private citizens, and the deficit was straightway corrected. His greatest trial was in the panic of '93, when many good people were both jobless and homeless, and unkind partisans were advising toilers to "eat the roosters" that they wore on their hats when they were "shouting for a change." Uncle Joe was equal to this emergency too. He supervised the planting of community gardens in vacant lots whose use was contributed by owners. Uncle Joe permitted the planting of everything but turnips, which latter, he declared, contained "nourishment neither for man nor beast."

It was in the sessions of the city councils that the old time City Halls had their chief interest for the people. Council was at once the voice and welfare of the people. There were franchises to be guarded and public rights to be protected. Then as now a prudent civic interest stalked the trail of extravagance. There were as many roars from taxpayers when the city owed an eight thousand public debt as there are now with a thirty million. From the closing days of the Civil War until the year when Senator Alexander persuaded the legislature to adopt the Akron-Youngstown plan of government by commission, City Council was the chief factor in Akron government. Its membership was drawn from the city's leading citizenship.

There was no shirking of public duty. Councilmen served for many years without pay. There were factions who struggled for the pride and honor of control, but none ever accused either of being faithless to the city's interest. Next to the smallpox scare and the riot, and the stirring incidents of war times, the greatest excitement ever in evidence at City Hall was on that day in June, 1903, when the supreme court made an end of government of Ohio cities by special acts. This decision ended the Akron-Youngstown plan and ousted the city commissioners. It was succeeded by the Nash code, providing for the federal plan, which gave the city a Mayor, and a cabinet of directors elected by the people. These continued until the well known home rule constitutional convention of 1912, which permitted the present charter plan, but conferred a home rule that had many qualifying strings attached—as all the people know. But correcting these are problems for the future.

The city commissioner period was, in general, a time of animated municipal politics. The commissioners as such succeeded in remaining fairly "non-partisan," however active "Czar" George M. Anderson or "Czar" Chas. H. Isbell and others might be.

The first board of commissioners, consisting of Wm. Buchtel, O. L. Sadler, John W. Baker and Henry Young, was representative of Akron's leading citizenship of that day. Friends of Senator Alexander were disappointed that he was not appointed to a place on the board, in view of his successful effort to have a bill passed changing the form of local government. But whatever ill-feeling there was on this score disappeared when the new commission started in to give Akron an excellent non-partisan administration of its public service. In those years Akron had real home rule in every division of government. The people did

not have to go to Columbus to consult state commissions every time they wanted to make a change in their municipal household. They regulated their own tax rates, debt limits, and the rates for services purchased from public utilities. The Akron commission, in its day, was an advanced step along the line of reform in local government, and whatever success attended it was due to the high quality of the men chosen to administer the commission's affairs. Other commissioners who served on the board in later years were Howard E. Sears, Jos. Hugill, Albert T. Paige, Dan McGarry, John Crisp, O. L. McMillen, Franklin G. Stipe, Louis Seybold, James C. Wilson, James Houser and John McFarland. The first clerk to the board of commissioners was Frank C. Wilson, who had long identity with Akron administrative service. Mr. Wilson was succeeded by Charles H. Isbell.

Upon the whole it was a goodly company of public servants which in past years walked in their turn through the corridors of its four city halls, and administered the affairs of Akron. Long before Akron had a Chamber of Commerce the city halls served in this function for the people. They strove to bring varied industries here and to marshal community sentiment along the right lines. It is a tribute to the success of their efforts in the upbuilding of a city that this year Akron will dedicate its fifth city hall. So many in so brief a span of life is good evidence of municipal progress.

Banks and Bankers

By Harry S. Quine

FOR twenty years after Akron came into being, the community had no banks, as banks are known today. None was really required for this hamlet of the western wilderness, anyway. And besides, it was a time when the whole nation felt extreme poverty. The United States was long in recovering from early calamity. The new nation did not really establish itself on a sound financial basis, with real banking laws, until the opening of the Civil War. In 1861, President Lincoln called congress in extraordinary session, and obtained the passage of a really efficient banking act. Since that time there has been an orderly development of the banking system of the United States, with confidence in American notes and currency, both in this country and abroad.

As the end of the Civil War was the beginning of the phenomenal industrial development, which has brought with it constantly greater needs for great sums of money, --something that could not have been supplied without a banking system entirely different than that which existed before 1861, it may be said safely that the law which Lincoln caused to be made as a war measure also aided and simplified the development of Akron in industry.

In Akron, almost from the very beginning, there were doubtless private money lenders, the predecessors of the bankers who were to come later. Usury was legal. He who had, collected all he could, in payment from him who must borrow. The old law enabling imprisonment of debtors was still in operation. And while it may be said that there exists today a traditional feeling of antipathy against men of wealth, that feeling is as deepest affection,

compared to the outright hatred of the people a hundred years ago against banks, bankers and capitalists.

Contact with currency was avoided rather than sought by a majority of the people. For money, in those days, was very often a snare and delusion indeed. As long as they could, then, the local population made exchange by barter and trade. Farmers brought their crops to the embryo city and exchanged grain, hides, fruits, butter, eggs and articles of like nature for furniture, clothing, shoes, certain articles of food, harness,—their necessities and their limited luxuries.

What Akron people learned of the early banks, was not usually good news. The bank bills in circulation were issued by state banks, organized under various laws, and conducted loosely or corruptly, so that the notes of many banks were worth little more than the paper on which they were printed. To discount them as much as 70 per cent was common practice. Communication was by horseback, stage or canal. Railroads were still experiments, and none had penetrated this great distance into the West. So news travelled slowly. The currency of a bank might be worth 100 cents on the dollar today; by the time its luckless possessor tried to spend it, quite often the bank had failed, or perhaps it had never existed at all, for counterfeiting was a tremendous industry.

Akron newspapers of the early days contained many editorials, communications, complaints, pleadings,—all for "sound money." The same papers printed lists regularly, of banks and their money, showing the value of their notes, par or less, in percentages. The American Democrat (Akron), Feb. 22, 1843, carried a long list and discount table of then prominent Ohio banks. Here are specimen items:

Belmont of St. Clairsville .....par
Bank of Cincinnati .....—
Chillicothe .....12½ dis.

Farmers' Bank of Canton .....50 dis.
Ohio Rail Road Company .....—
Ohio Life and Trust Company .....par
Sandusky .....par
Steubenville .....—
Urbana Banking Company .....70 dis.
West Union .....—
Western Reserve .....par
Washington .....broke
Wooster .....par
Xenia .....par

The banks of many other states are included in the list, but the foregoing supplies a rather representative list of the prominent banks of this vicinity at about the time Akron began to feel the need of one of her own.

The American Balance (Akron), said, November 9, 1837:—

"We copy a list of pretended banks, from the Buffalo and other papers, that the public may be aware of these fraudulent institutions; though many, we believe, of these self-styled banking houses, have no existence at all, except the name given to deceive those at a distance. We have a five ourselves, of the Bank of Brockville, for which we will readily accept as many cents:

"The 'Bank of Ottawa,' Montreal, L. C. The 'Merchants' Bank,' Montreal, L. C. The 'Mechanics' Bank,' Montreal, L. C. The 'Exporting, Mining and Manufacturing Company,' Jackson, Illinois. The only banks in Illinois are the State Bank and its branches, and the Bank of Illinois, Shawneetown. The 'Kirtland Bank,' Ohio, (the Mormon Bank) is another fraud."

The writer has Number I, Volume I, of "The Ohioan and New Era," a small three column, four page paper ushered into the world November 3, 1838, and published by "J. D. Fenn & Co., Akron, Portage County, Ohio." Its purpose, as outlined in the first editorial announce-

ment, was "to obtain the passage of a general banking law, for the State of Ohio, on the principle of having all the issues secured by real estate. A radical reform in the banking law," said the editor, "will be advocated. The reform is to consist, 1st, in making perfectly secure the holders of bank bills. 2d, avoiding fluctuations in the currency, by making a perfect confidence in the banks. 3d, destroying the monopoly of banking. 4th, putting an end to usury, by making money plenty, and in the reach of every individual who will give the necessary security.

"If Ohio engrafts upon herself the principle of banking, that it is the design of this paper to advocate, she will be second to no state in the Union. Real estate will rise permanently in value; her citizens will become prosperous and happy. Who, then, will not rejoice that he has lived at this 'New Era?' And who, then, will not be proud to be called an 'Ohioan'?"

In a communication signed "Snimmoc," which appeared in The Flail, (Akron), first issue, June 6, 1840, the correspondent, who was no doubt J. D. Commins, an early and prominent citizen, said, among other things:

"The conduct of the banks for some time past, has demonstrated the fact that as BANKS, they can perpetuate fraud, which as men they would shudder at and abhor; and now these soulless corporations have placed our currency in the worst possible condition, that amid the confusion and disorder thus created by themselves, they may fill their own coffers at the expense of those who toil and sweat to support these LEECHES and BLOOD-SUCKERS.

"Bank notes, like wheat and pork, have become a matter of merchandise, of purchase and sale. And why is this?—Ask the Banks for payment of their notes and you need not seek further for an answer. They think themselves insulted if cash is demanded, and with the most consummate effrontery enquiring

who it is that asks them for payment, bid their creditors defiance.....The Banks having discovered that so long as they refuse payment of their notes, they can charge what price they please for eastern exchanges, are in no hurry to resume.....We have borne and borne in the hope that a sense of returning justice would induce the Banks to retrace their steps. The expectation is vain. Nothing but the strong arm of the legislature will save us. It should be made felony for a Bank to refuse payment of specie for its notes so long as it has the means....."

"Snimmoc," or Dr. Commins, was one of eight men who, according to Lane, petitioned the Ohio Legislature for a Bank charter for Akron as early as 1835. The other petitioners were James W. Phillips, Richard Howe, Erastus Torrey, S. A. Wheeler, Justus Gale, R. McMillan and Seth Iredell. The bank was never opened, and Lane does not state whether the charter was granted.

The canal brought business to the growing community. There was plenty of water power; the early inhabitants numbered among them men of ingenuity and enterprise. In 1845, when Akron's first real bank was formed it supplied a community need. It was known as the Bank of Akron, was a branch of the "Ohio Safety Fund" system and began business with authorized capital of $50,000. W. S. C. Otis was the first president and John W. McMillen the first cashier. It is recorded that the first Bank of Akron thrived for more than ten years and then failed because it became involved in the financial difficulties of Akron's first railroad, the "Akron Branch," now part of the Pennsylvania System.

When the first bank was formed, it soon aided in relieving a distressing situation which was felt, especially by laboring men, whose wages (the standard

of the time was "a dollar a day") came to them in scrip, and orders on merchants. The merchant arbitrarily fixed the price of his merchandise; the workman was afraid of strange money and felt that he was often dealt with unfairly.

After Akron's first bank had failed, no attempt to replace it was made for some years, and Akron was again without a bank from 1856 to 1863,—after the National banking law had been passed.

Akron's second bank was a private enterprise. George D. Bates, born in Vermont, 1811, had come into this western country in early youth. Though he began his Ohio career humbly, as a farm boy at Solon, O., he soon developed into a merchant, then a manufacturer. Bates came to Akron about 1846, after successfully conducting a general store at Kent, then Franklin Mills. Here he first engaged in the foundry business; then in railway building for some years.

In 1855 he started the bank of George D. Bates & Company. He had acquired considerable capital through the conduct of his various enterprises, and he had as a banking partner General Philo Chamberlain who was also a man of considerable wealth for that time. Akron was a town of 3,400 people. Cleveland boasted 20,000. Therefore there was a rather sharp limit to the business the bank could do. Its first home was on the west side of Howard st., a short distance south of Market. Its equipment was crude, measured by the standards of today, but it quickly became the center of local things commercial and financial. It succeeded from the beginning.

Its allegiance to the Union was marked, active and practical during the Civil War. Not only did it aid business, which was strained because of war conditions, but its rooms early became headquarters for women's work for the "soldier boys." Akron women

spent hours and days and weeks there preparing hospital supplies, and bandages for the wounded.

Soon Bates & Co. acquired the property of its unfortunate predecessor, the Bank of Akron, on the opposite side of Howard st., moved to the new location, and continued in business there until 1863, when the private bank became part of the Second National Bank, organized in that year. Mr. Bates was president of the Second National until his death in 1887. Other first officers of the Second National were Joy H. Pendleton, vice president, and E. D. Childs, cashier.

Thomas W. Cornell, who founded the First National Bank in 1863, was an unique personage, born 1820 in New York State. In Ohio he first located at Cuyahoga Falls, where he purchased a distillery in 1855. It is related by one of the attorneys who had a part in the settlement of his estate that he profited very materially from the special war tax of $2.00 per gallon on whisky, imposed at the instance of President Lincoln in 1861. The law was not retroactive; Cornell's distillery was well stocked; whisky then retailed at about 25 cents a gallon. Cornell complied with the letter of the law as to the tax, sold much whisky at $2.25, for the benefit of the government and also sold a considerable quantity at $2.25, for which the extra $2.00 went into his own till. In 1863 he disposed of his distilling interests, came to Akron and established a bank. This bank was known as the First National Bank.

It ran along as a rival of the Second National until 1911, when the two merged under the name of the First-Second National Bank. Before that the Second National acquired the Bank of Akron, which had begun again, though having no connection with its progenitor of the same name. That was in 1888. The Citizens' National Bank merged with the Second Na-

tional in 1904. In 1913 The First-Second National acquired the stock of The People's Savings Bank and reorganized it as The People's Savings & Trust Company. In 1923 the last named became an actual part of the larger institution by merger, and the institution now known as The First Trust and Savings Bank, begun by Bates in two or three little rooms, has capital of $1,500,000, surplus of $1,500,000 and more than 40,000 customers.

In 1925 the officers of The First Trust & Savings Bank include C. I. Bruner, born near Dayton, O., on a farm in 1855, president, and George D. Bates, son of the original Bates the Banker, as one of the vice presidents. The resources of the institution are given as $31,000,000.

The City Bank is another which began as a private venture, later acquired a national charter, and has grown steadily since its beginning in 1867. Its founders were Woods, Thompson and Company. The venture succeeded and the bank changed its title to City National Bank with the acquisition of a national charter in 1883. In 1903 still another charter was acquired and the name changed to The National City Bank, under which it now operates. Its presidents, since establishment, have been John B. Woods, 1867, Dr. A. M. Cole, Geo. W. Crouse and Nelson C. Stone, the present head. Mr. Stone entered the bank's employ as bookkeeper in 1888. Harry Williams, now vice president and cashier, was employed the same year, as a messenger. Messrs. Stone and Williams found that their first banking duties included sweeping, building fires, carrying water, feeding and attending a horse, doing all the clerical work and running errands.

Deposits of The City National in 1883 were about $100,000; in 1913 they had grown to $2,500,000. Today they are about $12,500,000.

The two banks just described are all that have history running back into the early days of Akron's development.

The Central Savings Bank, now The Central Savings & Trust Co., began business February 18, 1897, with J. A. Baldwin, president; Will Christy, vice president, and J. R. Nutt, secretary and treasurer. Mr. Nutt is now president of the Union Trust Company of Cleveland. Its first location was in the Central office building, northeast corner Mill and Main sts. Its present size, like that of a number of other Akron banks, is due partly to natural growth and partly to mergers. The Central Savings Bank took over the Guardian Savings early in 1904, and late the same year this consolidation with the Akron Trust Company (organized 1900) and the combination moved to the northwest corner of Mill and Main, then the finest bank building in the city. When organized in 1897, The Central Savings was capitalized at $50,000. Early in 1905, after the consolidations, The Central Savings & Trust had total resources of about $1,216,000. Its capital is now $1,000,000; surplus $500,000; resources $16,495,000, and the institution is growing steadily. E. R. Held is president; H. H. Gibbs, George H. Dunn, J. P. Loomis and A. H. Commins, vice president; W. J. Ruof, treasurer; P. M. Held, secretary; R. M. Foltz, assistant secretary, and C. E. Elwell, assistant secretary. Its location is now at the southwest corner of Mill and Main, so that the bank has occupied three corners of that intersection in its lifetime.

Indicating the change, since early days, in the feeling of the people about the safety of banks, mention of the Trust Departments of various banks is appropriate. Not only are those who have little or much money eager to deposit it in checking or savings accounts, but the banks, through their Trust Depart-

ments, operate in a variety of ways. Wills are filed with the banks, which also act as executors of estates when so designated, and also handle the financial affairs of living persons who desire to be assisted or relieved in the care of property. An enormous business is done in this way.

The Dime Savings Bank was founded in 1901 by a group headed by the late Wm. H. Evans. At that time no Akron bank was making a specialty of loans secured by first mortgages on real estate, and the Dime Savings entered that field and found it stable and profitable. Williston Alling has been president since the beginning,—24 years. Wm. H. Evans, Jr., son of the bank's founder, is secretary and treasurer. The assets of this bank are now over $3,000,000.

Some 20 years ago Akron entered a period of unprecedented activity and growth in industry. More banks were needed, and more banks were established. Conspicuous among them for rapid growth is The Ohio State Bank & Trust Company, a composite of three other banking institutions, The State Bank, organized August 15, 1914; The Summit County Bank, opened December 2, 1916, and the Ohio Savings & Trust Company, chartered in 1916, which dominated the later mergers. Its first president was F. A. Seiberling; A. F. Ayers was its secretary and treasurer. Mr. Seiberling was later succeeded as president by Wm. O'Neil, president of The General Tire & Rubber Co., and Mr. Ayers has become executive vice president. The consolidation took place in January, 1922. The Ohio State Bank & Trust has resources of $10,230,000.

The Depositors' Savings & Trust Co., formed in 1907, has assets which have grown from $45,000 on the opening day, to stated total assets of over $10,000,000 today. G. C. Dietz is president, Charles Herberich and George W. Merz, vice presidents; W. J. Staiger, secretary, and

Walter Herberich treasurer. A branch is maintained in East Akron.

Near Main and Exchange sts., Akron's birthplace, the Commercial Savings & Trust Company began business, as The Commercial Savings Bank, in January, 1908. It now occupies its own building a few doors south of its birthplace. The bank has three branches in outlying parts of the city and has total resources of $5,840,443. John Kerch, president; C. R. Musser and C. H. Myers, vice presidents; W. E. Pardee, secretary, and George H. Burgy, treasurer. In spite of the fact that this bank was planned and started in the midst of the so-called "panic of 1907," it has made an excellent record of growth.

The Firestone Park Trust and Savings Bank was incorporated September 28, 1916. It has assets of $4,418,114. Capital stock of $200,000, and surplus of $170,947.63. Its officers are, president, H. S. Firestone; vice president, L. E. Sisler; secretary and treasurer, E. A. Oberlin; assistant secretary, H. W. McGregory, and G. Neal, assistant treasurer.

The Standard Savings Bank Company, incorporated Dec. 20, 1919, opened for business Nov. 10, 1920. Capital stock, $100,000, with surplus $25,000. Present surplus, $26,500. Present officers: I. F. Allen, president; James Shaw, first vice-president; Paul Sears, second vice-president; C. W. Barnes, secretary; R. P. Hassler, treasurer.

A barometer of the growth of Akron business and industry is given in the figures of The Akron Clearing House Association for the past twenty years. The Association was formed by the six Akron banks then operating, in 1893. Daily clearings at that time were about $50,000. Nelson C. Stone was the first manager of the association, which has made its headquarters with the now National City Bank ever since.

Akron Bank Clearings and Deposits

Year	Bank Clearings	Year	Bank Deposits
1900	$ 23,794,000	1910	$11,113,625
1910	48,460,000	1911	14,717,790
1911	65,378,000	1912	16,648,440
1912	93,375,000	1913	17,657,300
1913	96,120,000	1914	18,649,100
1914	87,516,000	1915	23,993,650
1915	109,252,000	1916	35,548,350
1916	207,484,000	1917	45,992,400
1917	299,996,000	1918	48,374,367
1918	285,537,000	1919	75,456,272
1919	472,924,000	1920 Nov. 1	72,165,195
1920	584,917,000	1921 Nov. 1	59,554,610
1921	326,285,000	1922	63,604,890
1922	303,599,000	1923	72,196,000
1923	359,023,000	1924	77,132,932
1924	399,020,000		

The Bankers Guarantee Title & Trust Company began a successful career in 1911; to guarantee titles, make first mortgage real estate loans and to sell such loans; it has all the machinery necessary to supply all manner of abstracts, certificates of title, and other evidences of title to real estate. Its original capital, $150,000, has remained the same, though surplus and undivided profits have grown from $7,500 in 1911, to $365,637 at the end of 1924. A. W. Burnett is president, and the vice presidents are G. C. Dietz, M. O'Neil, Charles Herberich and J. W. Thomas.

The Abstract Title Guarantee and Trust Company is engaged in a similar business. It was organized December 17th, 1894. Its present officers are John C. Moore, president; Earl G. Smith, executive vice president and secretary; Emery Hitchcock, secretary, and Charles E. Batchelor, assistant treasurer.

The Akron Savings & Loan Company began business as The Akron Building & Loan Association. In

1888, Hugo Schumacher was the first president. Today the association occupies a fine block of its own at Main and Bowery sts., and has total resources of $7,000,000. The place of building and loan associations was interestingly explained by F. M. Cooke, president, on formal opening of the new building, December 22, 1924:—

"Money is loaned on real estate, and for home construction, in Summit county. None is loaned outside the county and none is used by the company for speculative purposes. Through the loaning of money for home construction the company is kept in close touch with the man and family of average means....The first building and loan was founded at Delaware, O., in the 50's. It was then known as the serial plan. Then Judge Winters, of Dayton, became interested in forming a similar organization and made a study of such institutions in Europe. Returning to Dayton he formed an association on a much more satisfactory and stable basis than the Delaware pioneer. The savings and loan, or building and loan associations today follow the Dayton plan with little variance."

December 14, 1894, Cornelius A. Brouse, H. C. R. Wall, James E. Church, L. A. Barmore and Chas. C. Bates (then a professor at Buchtel College) incorporated The Savings Building & Loan Co.; the name of the company was changed in 1898 to The Permanent Savings & Loan Co., under which name this company is now engaged in business. The officers at present are: President, Edwin W. Brouse; first vice-president, F. J. Steinert; second vice-president, C. C. McNeil; secretary, John C. Moore; treasurer, F. H. Lyder.

The Citizens Savings and Loan Company was organized April, 1909. R. M. Pillmore is president of this company and L. E. De Vore, secretary.

The Industrians Savings & Loan Company is an East Akron organization, formed in 1917. Its resources have

grown from $222,898 at the end of the first calendar year, to $1,265,261 in 1925. E. H. Brooks is president.

The William H. Evans Building and Loan Company has conducted a very successful business. Its officers are, Henry Feuchter, president; Thomas Rockwell, vice president; D. R. Evans, secretary, and W. J. Evans, Jr., treasurer.

The Society Savings and Loan Company was organized in 1921. Its president is Elmer E. Workman; secretary, H. G. Workman, and treasurer, Paul Held.

Other Akron building and loan or savings and loan associations are The South Akron Savings Association, The First Savings and Loan Company, The North Hill Savings and Loan Company and Workers' Savings & Loan Company. The Reliance Savings and Loan Company, a branch of the Cleveland company of that name, has located recently in Akron.

The Akron Morris Plan Bank is conducted on a plan all its own. The borrower is required to have two endorsers instead of actual collateral, and agrees to repay in fixed weekly sums, which go into a savings account or sinking fund in the bank itself. P. T. McCourt is president of the Akron Morris Plan Bank.

At the end of 1924 one of the banks included in its literature the following little summary of the financial position of the City of Akron:

	1910	1924
Capitalization of Akron Industries	$75,142,000	$378,858,940
Employees	23,450	52,390
Post Office Receipts	315,442	1,180,000
Bank Clearings	48,460,000	386,486,000

So it has come to pass, in Akron, that instead of hating and suspecting banks the people have come to believe in them and trust them. It is the habit of a great majority to transact their personal business by means of

bank check against checking accounts,—the stubs providing a simple and accurate system of accounting. Further belief in the stability of banks is proved by the great number of savings accounts. Akron's banks have been singularly free of serious troubles for half a century.

Even when the collapse of the business boom that followed the World War prostrated all business and caused the failure of many enterprises, Akron's banks stood fast and strong. None was obliged to close its doors. And even though today the amount of money and credit required for Akron industry is greater than local banking institutions can care for, so that many loans for Akron business are made outside, the fact remains that after a straight path had been made for them to follow, by the enactment of legislation that safeguarded depositors and provided for proper banking supervision by state and nation, Akron's banks have done a worthy part in supporting and aiding the things that have made the city's great growth possible.

Stores and Merchants

By John A. Botzum

FOOD and clothing ever have been and ever will be the first necessities of life.

With the advent of civilization come other requirements such as homes and all that go in them from the hut to the palace. Inventions are followed by factories. From the factories comes the merchandise. The world is ready to buy. There must be merchants and there must be salesmen.

The merchant plays an important part in the building of a city and the character of any city may be judged largely by the kind of merchants to be found in that city. How well the merchants of Akron have contributed to the upbuilding of a great and growing city is well known in the business world.

Authentic history tells us that the first settlement in this entire section of Ohio was in old Middlebury, now a part of Akron, in the year 1807. Around that far away date it would not be a difficult task to locate the first merchant in Middlebury and there let him open his store for business. That first store was built of logs. The merchandise was of the bare necessities of life such as boots, shoes, hats, caps, some clothing, a small stock of groceries and a small collection of rather crude farm implements. The merchandise was brought overland from Pittsburgh in wagons drawn by horses, or often, by ox teams. There were no mails, no newspapers. Advertising was unnecessary. There was no competition. It was a one-man store and the only one for miles around.

That pioneer merchant came from the East following the march of civilization and progress in its move-

ment westward. How well he faced the hardships of his day and how well he assisted mankind is for you to say.

Middlebury was founded by Joseph Hart. In this first settlement work was started in building a grist mill, saw mill, cloth mill and other very small manufacturing industries. In 1808 that first merchant had competition for at that early time Middlebury had nearly a dozen stores and caravans of goods were arriving from eastern cities.

A few years later, about 1826, work was started in the building of the Ohio canal and another settlement sprung up in the vicinity of Exchange and Main sts. It was there the first real big store was built in Akron. It was known as the "Mammoth Store," being a two-story frame building and well stocked with goods. A year later another settlement started in the neighborhood of Howard and Market sts. It was called "Dublin" for the reason that most of the inhabitants were Irish, brought here to help dig the canal.

More merchants came and more stores were built. In 1840 the Ohio and Pennsylvania canal was completed and merchandise commenced to arrive over this new waterway from Pittsburgh. Most of the average cargo consisted of iron, nails, glass and groceries. No longer now did the Akron merchants have to depend upon the big, slow moving "schooners" to bring merchandise this way. The two canals, the Ohio and the Ohio and Pennsylvania, helped start a great mercantile activity here which has grown from year to year.

Seven years after the opening of the Ohio canal a young man arrived in Akron from the East. His arrival was by stage coach. That man was P. D. Hall, who started a store at the corner of Howard and Market sts. "Meet Me at Hall's Corners," from that time on for nearly a half century was heard in every

hamlet and at every cross road in the county. For over a half century Hall's Corners was the very center and heart of Akron's mercantile life.

P. D. Hall was soon joined by his brother, Lorenzo Hall, who helped establish a great business by peddling goods from house to house through all the country towns that were now springing up rapidly.

Twenty-five years after P. D. Hall started his store, at Howard and Market, Akron's population had increased from 600 to nearly 10,000 people. Howard st., from the old Sumner House, south to Mill and Market, from Howard to High, were the principal business streets of the city. The banks of the Pennsylvania canal, on Main st., were lined with small shops, wool depots, livery stables and lumber yards.

The first directory published in Akron was in 1868. Even then the life of the town was down around Hall's Corners. Howard st. was a street of small stores, shops, a few taverns and warehouses. It was a street of hitching posts, wooden sidewalks, numerous small homes with picket fences and squeaking gates.

It was also Akron's great market place where merchants lived and thrived. In front of the stores and shops the village characters sat on soap boxes and nail kegs and from them you heard the gossip of the day. The old street was filled with wagons loaded with grain and wool. Around these wagons the wool and grain buyers were striking bargains. Now and then a slow-moving ox team made its way through the scene. Over on Main st., you found the farmers feeding their teams. Main st. was the great feeding place for the country folk. That was Akron in 1868 and even down to 1875, a half century ago.

With this picture in your mind let us now turn to the merchants and ask who they were and what they were. The list of Akron merchants as it appeared 50

years ago opens up an avenue of memories. It takes you back to the pioneers, the pioneer merchants, merchants whose names loom big in the history of this city. The list follows. How many of the names will arouse memories for you?

GROCERS—Barnes & Bro.; Berg & Koch; G. C. Berry & Co.; W. and J. Bittman; Brenizer & Heathman; A. P. Cannon, Clark & Sumner, J. Cook & Sons, James Costigan, J. R. Dietzold, Wm. H. Dilworth, Wm. Doran, A. Durand, Henry Eggermann, L. H. Farrand, John Feuchter & Son, Wm. Fink, Wm. Flower, W. Gille, Frank Gillooly, S. W. Goble, Jacob Good, John G. Grether, Hambleton Bros., David Hanscom, J. B. Houghton, W. T. Jones, F. J. Kolb, J. H. Kraner & Son, H. W. Sumner, George Viall & Co., D. Weeks, J. M. Wills, Wood & Richards, John Leonard, McCue & Williams, M. McFarland, C. Miller, Fred Mustill, A. Neugart, Chas. Parisette, C. H. Payne, E. F. Pflueger, Wm. Poole, D. W. Roland, Steese & Hall, Maj. E. Steinbacher.

MEAT MARKETS—Barder & Campbell, Joseph Beckhardt, Brodt & Fink, De Long & Sherbondy, Field Bros., Thomas Gibbs, N. D. Leopold & Co., Leopold & Treen, Elias Long, Joseph McCann, F. G. Rentschler, Schoeninger Bros., Teeple & Brown, Peter Vinton, Willhelm, Brodt & Co.

LEATHER AND WOOL—J. H. Christy & Company.

MERCHANT TAILORS—T. B. Albert, G. W. Camp, Chipman, Barnes & Perkins, John Heib, Hoffman & Moss, John Kling, Koch & Levi, Wm. Schroeder, C. F. Teits.

MILLINERY—Mrs. T. W. Baker, Mrs. S. Brown, Miss M. Fitzgerald, I. J. Frank, Mrs. J. L. Lees, Peck & Francis, T. M. Sawyer, Miss F. G. Viele.

NEWS DEALERS—H. G. Canfield, Dieboldt & Clippinger, W. G. Robinson, West & Hale.

ORGANS AND PIANOS—A. Straub, D. L. Foust.

PAINTS AND OILS—R. L. Andrew.

SADDLES AND HARNESS—Louis Berrodin, L. H. Bostford, Jacob Dettling, D. C. Gillett, F. C. Hawkins, G. F. Pierce, Philip Upington.

STOVES AND TINWARE—Alfred Aker, Cramer & May, H. D. Freer, A. Jahant & Bro., Joseph Kaiser, Paige Bros. & Kent, Wetmore & Parks, Thomas Williams.

TOBACCO AND CIGARS—C. T. Parker, S. G. Bucher, H. M. Dietzhold, Isaac Ettinger, Ferbstein Bros., D. Ferbstein, John Glatther, John Gorman, J. L. Gross, N. L. Holdstein, Thos. McMillen, C. A. Norris, J. Seiber & Co., N. E. Van Sickle, Weber & Freadmann, George Weimer, John Yeomans, J. H. Zeller.

UPHOLSTERS AND CARPETS—Klinger & Gintz, Louis Poehlman.

WALL PAPER—R. L. Andrew, Beebe & Elkins, George C. Berry & Co., Diehl & Oviatt, W. G. Robinson.

JEWELERS—H. E. Abbey, Foltz & Frank, F. J. Kempel, G. J. Nieberg, O. H. Remington, J. B. Storer & Co., T. Upington & Son.

HATS, CAPS AND FURS—T. B. Albert; Chipman, Barnes & Perkins.

HARDWARE—Hall Bros., Joseph Kaiser, Paige Bros. & Kent, L. B. Schneider.

GENTS' FURNISHINGS—T. B. Albert; Chipman, Barnes & Perkins, I. Cohen & Co., Ferbstein Bros., E. Hersch & Co., Hoffman & Moss, M. Joseph & Son, John Kling, Koch & Levi, Wm. Schroeder.

FURNITURE DEALERS—A. Baldwin, T. C. Budd, L. H. Limbert, D. G. Sanford, Viall & Replogel, C. W. Wright.

DRY GOODS—Auble, Brown & Co., Barnes & Bros., G. C. Berry, Hall Bros., E. P. Holloway, R. H. McCombs & Co., Wesener, Brouse & Co., Wolf, Church & Beck.

DRUGGISTS—A. M. Armstrong, Beebe & Elkins, W. T. Hefferman & Co., G. H. Helfer & Son, F. W. Inman & Son, J. H. Kramer & Son, J. M. Laffer, D. S. McBride, Sisler & Hoye, E. Steinbacher, Warner & Hollinger.

CONFECTIONERY & FRUITS—E. L. Alling, Andrews & Durant, J. M. Atkinson, C. T. Baker, Frederick Beck, Brenizer & Heathman, Durant & Andrews, I. Hayes, Lodwick & Woodrow, John Motz, Stair & Stadler, H. W. Sumner.

CLOTHIERS—I. Cohen & Co., John Heib, E. Hirsch & Co., Hoffman & Moss, Koch & Levi, M. Joseph & Son.

CHINA AND GLASSWARE—Barnes & Bros., G. C. Berry & Son, Hall Bros., Herrick & Cannon.

BOOTS AND SHOES—G. M. Beck, Peter Biebricher, Bowman, McNeil & Co., I. B. Hargett, John Hanson, S. E. Phinney & Co., J. J. Santry & Co., Saliday & Bunn, George Viall & Co., Henry Willi.

BOOKS AND STATIONERY—Beebe & Elkins, H. G. Canfield, W. G. Robinson, West & Hale.

That the early Akron merchants believed in advertising is evident from these samples of how they called attention to their business over a half century ago:—

"E. Steinbacher & Company. Wholesale and retail druggists and grocers. Dealers in foreign and domes-

tic wines and liquors. Yankee notions and fancy goods."

"George Sechrist & Company. Dealers in drugs, groceries. All goods warranted as represented and no blowing."

"Akron Melo-Pean Company. Scott & Straub. Manufacturers of Melo-Peans and dealers in Piano-Fortes."

"I. Cohen & Company. Dealers in ready-made clothing, gents' furnishings, hats and caps. One price and no deviation."

"J. E. Wesener & Company, merchants. Wholesale and retail. Dealers in foreign and domestic drygoods, carpets and oil cloths. Also depot for the purchase and sale of wool."

From 1840 to 1870 Akron was considerable of a center for the wool industry and there were many merchants who engaged extensively in the wool trade. Prominent among these was Joseph E. Wesener, James and John Christy and Moses Joseph and Herman F. Hahn.

John Brown, of Civil War fame, was one of the most prominent wool merchants in the history of early Akron. In 1844 he formed a partnership with Col. Simon Perkins and Brown and Perkins raised thousands of sheep on the lands about Perkins Hill. They established wool depots in Akron and in eastern cities.

In the swift moving century the old order of things has been changed. The village cobbler is no longer seen on Howard and Market. The hitching posts and watering troughs are gone. The slow moving caravans are but memories. The canals are history. The old-time stores are things of the past. The old-time merchants have moved on. With but few exceptions every one of the merchants of 50 years ago is gone.

The past 25 years have witnessed a great growth

in Akron and Akron merchants have kept pace with the marvelous advancement. Today the mercantile life of the city is not confined to Howard, Market and Main sts. It's alive in every part of a great city.

Today there are over 3,000 merchants of various kinds in Akron and over 10,000 persons constitute the city's selling forces. The annual business in these mercantile houses runs into many millions. That first store, a one-man store, has given way to the big department store covering acres of floor space and employing a thousand clerks during the rush season.

There are nine big growing department stores in Akron. Three of the largest started from very humble beginnings. These are the M. O'Neil Company, the C. H. Yeager Company and the A. Polsky Company. The O'Neil store was founded in 1876 by O'Neil & Dyas. The first store was on Market st. In 1888 the O'Neil & Dyas Company, predicting a great future for the city, erected a new store on Main on the site of the present M. O'Neil store. One year later the great store burned but from the ashes arose a greater one.

The A. Polsky Company started in a very small way many years ago. The founder of this department house was that old pioneer business man, Abraham Polsky. In time his sons became a power in the Polsky establishment.

The C. H. Yeager Company recently celebrated the 19th anniversary of its founding and has had a remarkable growth.

Two of Akron's best known mercantile houses have celebrated diamond jubilees. These are the J. Koch Company and the M. T. Cutter Company. These houses have history that dates back to the days of the village. The W. J. Frank Company a few years ago celebrated a golden jubilee.

A feature of the J. Koch Company celebration was a banquet given the employees by Louis Loeb, president of the company. Mr. Loeb recalled some of the early days with his company and with Akron merchants. "When I was a clerk back there," said he, "we never watched the clock. The stores were opened very early in the morning and remained open until late at night. Often I have slept on the counter or under the counter. Sweeping out the store and cleaning the windows were as much a part of the young clerk's work as was waiting on customers. Every clerk was willing to do most anything. All the merchants had a friendly interest in one another. If at any time misfortune came to any merchant and he needed help he got it."

There are in Akron today over 600 retail groceries, 300 confectionery stores, 300 meat markets, 50 dry-goods houses, 50 house furnishing establishments, 40 hardware stores, 45 jewelry shops, 85 men's furnishing stores, 85 drug stores, 9 department stores, 60 clothing houses, 16 china stores, 50 millinery shops, 20 musical instrument stores, 40 paint and varnish stores, 25 piano and organ establishments, 50 boot and shoe stores, 12 tea and coffee stores, 25 stores in which radio supplies are sold and numerous electrical stores and shops of many other kinds.

Wholesale establishments may be listed as follows: Drugs, 1; flour, 7; meats and provisions, 17; milk and cream, 3; paints, 5; paper and bags, 8; produce, 12; roofing paper, 5; rubber goods, 9; school supplies, 1; coal merchants, 14; coffee, 2; confectionery, 9; grocers, 6; bakeries, 6; cigars and tobacco, 5.

Akron has several wholesale mercantile houses with trade in many states. The volume of business has increased rapidly among the wholesale merchants during the past ten years. There are now over 150

growing wholesale mercantile establishments in Akron classified as follows: Hardware, 4; flour, 8; fishing tackle, 1; drygoods, 3; electric supplies, 3; drugs, 1; confectionery, 9; coal, 15; chemicals, 2; cheese, 2; cement, 8; bakeries, 7; groceries, 7; meats and provisions, 17; milk and cream, 3; office supplies, 2; oil and gasoline, 14; paints, 6; paper and bags, 10; plumbers' supplies, 3; produce, 15; radio supplies, 2; roofing paper, 7; rubber goods, 10; school supplies, 2; soft drinks, 10; sugar, 2; varnish, 2.

Akron also has five up-to-date market houses which will compare favorably with such markets to be found in larger cities.

Akron has several chain stores, the largest being the Acme grocery chain with 99 stores. Last year there were unloaded at the Acme warehouses 1065 car loads of merchandise. Of this number 161 were cars of potatoes, 126 cars of flour, 182 cars of fresh fruit and vegetables and 172 cars of sugar. This business began with a one-man grocery. Fred W. Albrecht, its founder, is still at the head of this enterprise.

Another big chain of grocery stores here is that of the A & P Tea Company, having 66 stores. The Day Drug Company has a chain of 19 stores.

Fifteen years ago the merchants of this city organized what is known as the Akron Merchants' Association and much good work has been accomplished. It has various objects for the betterment of mercantile conditions. Principal among these is the promotion of harmony among the merchants and the correction of various kinds of abuses. The association through its detective department has caused hundreds of arrests of shop lifters and check workers. Abuses are corrected in advertising and classes are conducted weekly in salesmanship. Window trimming and the proper display of goods is also given attention by experts in their special lines.

The modern merchants of Akron realize fully the power of advertising. Many thousands of dollars are spent every year through the newspapers and otherwise. And it is over this great bridge, built by advertising, that comes the change between yesterday and today. Time was when the merchant need but place his name over the door,—a day that is forever past.

The mercantile branch of Akron's daily life now has taken on gigantic proportions. Competition, in every line, is keen. Inventions have changed the way of living and thinking. The changes in the thoughts and customs of people have reflected changes in the stores, in the kinds of goods sold, in the display of goods and in the methods of salesmanship. Akron merchants are selling goods today that were undreamed of just a few years ago. Go into any of Akron's big stores, take stock of what you see and, compare the modern store of today with that little first store of a century ago and then form you own picture. Go back on Howard, go back on Market, go back on Main and ask yourself what mysterious force has created all these changes?

General Industries

By George W. Sherman

OLIVER WENDALL HOLMES' "One Hoss Shay" was such an all 'round, well balanced product that it has been typical for years as the antithesis of the specialist and of the one-sided man, product and community.

And this chapter has the delightful task of showing that we are a "One Hoss Shay" of a town.

To the critic who says that Akron is all rubber, we reply that Akron Sewer Pipe was known around the world before rubber manufacture was ever heard of; that modern farm machinery was born and raised to a vigorous manhood in Akron; that Akron put Quaker Oats on every breakfast table in the land; that Akron boasts the largest fish hook factory in the country; and so on for a well balanced, varied list of industries.

In 1901, a newcomer to Akron would sense within a very few days that there was no dominant industry, that there were twenty-five or thirty major industries, all about of a size and all thriving.

In 1925, these and other new ones are still here and still thriving even though the rubber business has "ballooned" over the others and hidden them from popular view.

We have with us today, in addition to the major and their allied industries covered by special chapters:—Manufacturers of butter, ice, fish hooks and tackle and supplies for the "Complete Angler," soap, grease, tallow, hides and other products of the rendering plants, mattresses and bedding, meat and other slaughter house products, tents and awnings, brushes, hot air furnaces, electric motors and other electrical machinery, oil filters, exhaust heads, and similar sheet metal products, paper boxes of all kinds,

gasoline products specially refined for automobile use, movable stairways, paper bags, wooden handles, leather belting, oil drilling machines, mirrors and a multitude of other products.

Most of the companies and people responsible for these products submitted brief data as requested, but between the lines of each report lurks romance. We have not space to trace this out, but if you will read each brief report with your imagination awake and keenly whetted by your own business life experience, the romance will be supplied.

Thomas Phillips & Co., a partnership, commenced business in 1872, to manufacture extra strong paper made from old Manila rope. The partners were John R. Buchtel and George W. Crouse of Akron and Thomas Phillips from Chagrin Falls, O. During the intervening years there have been associated with their enterprise as officers and directors, Clarence Howland, W. T. Jordan, Mrs. Helena E. Ewart, widow of Thomas Phillips, Harriet S. Phillips, his sister, A. B. Tinker representing Buchtel College interests, George W. Crouse, Jr., Fred D. Howland, Frank C. Howland, George S. Howland, William Whaley, F. A. Seiberling, Charles W. Seiberling and L. C. Koplin.

In 1887 the company was incorporated under the name of The Thomas Phillips Co., and the present officers are Chas. W. Seiberling, pres., Frank C. Howland, treasurer and general manager; George C. Howland, secretary and assistant treasurer; L. C. Koplin, vice president and assistant manager.

The original plant, built in 1872, burned in 1891 and was rebuilt the same year. The company now manufactures paper bags from the raw material, old Manila rope—to the complete finished product, printed with the brand of the customer.

These are bare facts, but read between a few of the lines:—In 1888 John R. Buchtel transferred his stock

to Buchtel College. Clarence Howland was the original bookkeeper in 1872, became manager in 1879 and before the company was incorporated acquired an interest by purchase from John R. Buchtel.

After incorporation Clarence Howland was the first treasurer and general manager, and later purchased the Buchtel College interest. He died in 1905 and was succeeded by the present treasurer and general manager, Frank C. Howland.

The Akron Soap Company manufactures soaps, tallow, greases and poultry foods. The business was established in 1884 by Adam Duncan in an old stone building still standing on North Case ave. In 1903 a branch was established in Youngstown and from this branch in 1921 originated the Duncan Oil company, an Akron branch of which was established in 1924.

The Portage Rendering company was founded in 1917 by George J. Bickler who is president and treasurer with M. C. Bickler as secretary. The company manufactures tallow and grease and deal in hides and pelts.

Zimmerly Brothers was founded July 9th, 1892 as meat packers. In 1908 they were incorporated as The Zimmerly Bros. Co. The founders were John, Jacob, Gottlieb and Herman Zimmerly, and the officers are: Jacob Zimmerly, president; Gottlieb Zimmerly, vice president; John Zimmerly, secretary and treasurer; Herman Zimmerly, general manager.

The Burt Manufacturing Company is a development from The Burt Specialty Company, formed during the eighties to sell hard rubber specialties, as manufactured by the B. F. Goodrich Company, consisting principally of Yale Ink Wells, hard rubber poker chips and similar items. Why was it named Burt? The founders were Bert Work, Burt Knowles, Bert Wills, Burt Kohler, C. G. Raymond, E. B. Miller, Harry Blackburn, W. F. Warden and H. F. Maranville. In 1890 Burt Knowles purchased

an oil filter patent and during that same year The Burt Manufacturing Company was incorporated by W. F. Warden, H. G. Blackburn, Clyde F. Berry, J. Asa Palmer, H. F. Maranville, and Mrs. Mae Knowles.

The oil filter was developed and perfected and other types and styles were developed. The Burt exhaust head was brought forward. Later the Burt ventilator was added making the complete line as it is today. This company is the largest and oldest manufacturers of oil filters in the world, having sold 300,000 filters in this country alone. Its distinction is world wide. Officers are: President and general manager, J. Asa Palmer; vice president, F. E. Whittemore; secretary, C. A. Palmer; treasurer and factory manager, J. D. Palmer.

Selle-Gear Company was incorporated in 1886 for the manufacture of wagon gears, wagons, etc. In 1903 this company consolidated with the Akron Gear Company under the name of Akron-Selle company. After the advent of the automobile the wagon gear work steadily declined and in 1914 the Akron-Selle Company absorbed the Tanner-Hower Gauge Company, manufacturers of gasoline and oil gauges and metal stampings. The business has greatly expanded until today this is one of the foremost companies making automotive specialties. The founders and others connected with the development of this company were: Ferdinand Selle, M. Otis Hower, John B. Hower and E. W. Hamlin. The officers are: President, Blanche E. Hower; vice president, John B. Hower; secretary, E. W. Hamlin.

Enterprise Works, established 1881 by E. F. Pflueger, proprietor, was incorporated in 1886 as The Enterprise Manufacturing Co., by E. F. Pflueger, Ernest A. Pflueger, A. L. Conger, George W. Crouse and B. F. Goodrich, taking over The American Fish Hook company, which was established in 1864. The company manufactures a complete line of fishing tackle

suitable for both fresh and salt water fishing. The officers are: President and treasurer, E. A. Pflueger, vice president and superintendent, J. E. Pflueger; vice president and assistant treasurer, C. T. Pflueger; secretary, L. W. Griffiths. The Sportsmens Digest, in an article about this company, says in part:—"The Enterprise Manufacturing Company of Akron is among the two or three largest institutions of its kind in the universe. Likewise it is the oldest and largest of its kind in this hemisphere. Fish lures to the extent of some 5000 different and distinct pieces are the products of this house. The late E. F. Pflueger founded this business in the farm house kitchen."

E. A. Pflueger is president of a national organization known as "The Manufacturers Association of Fishing Tackle" comprising the leading manufacturers of this class of goods in the United States.

The Taplin-Rice-Clerkin Co., developed from other companies founded in 1865 for the manufacture of stoves, furnaces, ranges, clay and potters' working equipment. The founders and developers were: George T. Perkins, Henry Perkins, J. B. Taplin, Alvin Rice and William Clerkin. The present officers are: William Clerkin and Irene Clerkin. Its products are favorably known all over the country.

The Wise Furnace Company was incorporated, 1904 by W. G. Wise, J. W. Myers, Crannel Morgan and George W. Carmichael for the manufacture of warm air furnaces. The officers are: President, J. W. Myers; vice president and general manager, W. G. Wise; treasurer, D. C. Siegfried; secretary, Atlee Wise.

This company ships its product to all parts of the United States where heating apparatus is needed, and is recognized as one of the leaders in its line.

The Twentieth Century Heating & Ventilating Company originated in the spring of 1894 when warm air fur-

naces were manufactured under the name of Clerkin & Maag by a co-partnership consisting of George Maag, John Kerch and William Clerkin. In December, 1894, a patent on the celled and slotted fire pot was granted to George Maag. The enterprise was incorporated, 1901, with John Kerch, president; George Maag, vice president; W. G. Wise, secretary and treasurer; William Clerkin, general manager.

In 1908 Mr. Clerkin retired and Mr. Kerch assumed the management. The present officers are John Kerch, president and general manager; George Maag, vice president; J. Garver Kerch, secretary; Earl Diehm, treasurer; Oliver Toomey and Andrew Deis, directors.

Products include warm air furnaces for both hard and soft coal, steam and hot water boilers, patented horizontal flow heater for mechanical warm air heating, auxiliary natural gas heaters and the overhead system of installing the horizontal distributing pipes in the attic instead of in the basement.

The Akron Pure Milk Company was founded in 1901 by H. B. Camp and Howard Goodwin who sold out to O. N. Harter, A. G. Teeple, H. D. Teeple, J. M. Sumner and W. Teeple March 4, 1904. About one year after, A. H. Harter and William Fischer were taken into the organization. The present officers are: A. H. Harter, president; Jos. C. Hale, vice president; A. G. Teeple, secretary; H. D. Teeple, treasurer; C. B. Alexander, assistant secretary and treasurer and general manager. In 1825 milk was furnished by the owners' individual cows. In 1850 milk was furnished by owners' or the neighbors' cows. By 1875 there were neighborhood dealers who furnished a few with milk. Then came the peddler who announced his arrival with bell, and dipped milk from can and put it into the customer's pitcher or jar. In 1925 milk, pasteurized and bottled, is delivered in sealed glass containers while the city sleeps.

The Klages Coal & Ice Company was founded in 1879 by Henry Klages, and incorporated, 1888, with the following stockholders: Henry Klages, August Blessman, John R. Buchtel, Ferdinand Schumacher, Paul E. Werner, C. M. Knight, Herbert P. Hitchcock, A. H. Sargent, James Viall and W. A. Folger. The present officers are: H. W. Haupt, president and general manager; C. M. Knight, vice president; L. A. Klages, secretary and treasurer; W. B. Blessman, superintendent.

Up to 1888 the business was the retailing of coal. Upon incorporation in 1888 the business was expanded to include retailing of ice, the supply being obtained from White Pond, Summit Lake and Blue Pond. In 1892 the first artificial ice plant was opened. The use of natural ice continued for a number of years but now artificial ice has practically replaced it in all of Akron.

The Burkhardt Consolidated Company started in 1880 as a brewing business when the plant of Frederick Gassler was purchased by William Burkhardt. After his death in 1882 the business was continued by his widow Mrs. Margaretha Burkhardt. The present company is a consolidation of: The City Ice & Coal company, the Burkhardt Realty company and The Burkhardt Company with the following officers: G. F. Burkhardt, president; Mrs. Margaretha Burkhardt, vice president; W. L. Burkhardt, treasurer; G. C. Dietz, secretary, F. W. Gayer, assistant secretary; John Aitkenhead, assistant treasurer.

The products are soft drinks, including cereal beverages, orange drinks, ginger ale and root beer; artificial ice.

The Renner Products Company succeeded the Renner Brewing Co., founded in 1845. Its founders and developers were Mr. Oberholtz, F. Horix and George J. Renner. The present officers are Ernest C. Deibel, president; W. D. Renner, vice president; George L. Huber,

general manager. Their products are cereal and carbonated beverages and artificial ice.

The Sumner Company was founded in 1902 by J. M. Sumner and O. N. Harter, the latter being shortly succeeded by E. E. Crooks, who remained in the business until 1914 when his interests were purchased by J. M. Sumner, and from that time to the present he and his sons have owned and operated the company. The officers are: J. M. Sumner, president; G. A. Sumner, vice president; F. L. Sumner, secretary and treasurer. This company operates one of the largest creameries in Ohio.

The Bessler Movable Stairway Company was founded in 1908 by F. E. Bessler, the officers are: F. E. Bessler, president; A. J. Dellenberger, secretary and treasurer. This product is a stairway which can be pushed up out of the way to give greater free space on a lower floor, and pulled down into place to give access to upper floors.

The South Akron Awning Company was founded March 1, 1913 by Mr. R. H. Gauman to manufacture tents, awnings and tarpaulins. In this line also is the Akron Tent & Awning Company.

The Star Drilling Machine Company was incorporated in 1889 by J. W. Miller, E. A. Durst, H. A. Hine, Present officers are: D. B. Duff of Cleveland, president; W. M. Dabney of Cleveland, vice president; J. W. Miller of Pasadena, Cal., Vice President; F. B. Theiss of Akron, vice president and treasurer; L. W. Breyfogle of Akron, secretary; M. J. LeFevre of Akron, assistant secretary and assistant treasurer. Here are manufactured portable well drilling machinery, drilling tools and equipment. Factories in Akron, Chanute, Kans., Portland, Ore., Long Beach, Cal.

The A. Peterson Company was started in 1900 by Mr. and Mrs. Peterson at 482 South High st., manufacturing set-up paper boxes. In 1909 the company was

incorporated. In 1923 the same interests started a separate company known as The Akron Paper Box Company to manufacture folding boxes. Both factories are fully equipped and located in adjoining buildings. The officers are A. Peterson, president; D. H. Peterson, treasurer; R. Peterson, secretary. This family group takes pride in having built up from nothing in a comparatively few years two sizable manufacturing companies.

The Akron Mattress Manufacturing Company was founded in 1908 by Joseph Dopples, Charles Reyman and Julius Dirrig. It was incorporated in 1909 by the founders with Charles Zaber and Selma Reyman and started in a small frame building. The business now occupies a modern four-story fire-proof building. The officers are: George W. Merz, president; Ben F. Wheeler, vice president; F. E. Dyer, secretary, treasurer and general manager. The products are upholstered living room furniture, mattresses, box springs and SanHygene mattresses.

The Plotkin Bedding Company was organized in 1922 by S. J. Plotkin. The officers are: S. J. Plotkin, president; S. Plotkin, treasurer and general manager; J. H. Vineberg, vice president; H. D. Fuerst, secretary. This company manufactures mattresses and box springs.

The Akron Belting Company was founded and incorporated 1885, by Charles T. Bodifield, Sumner Nash, Samuel Findley, A. M. Barber and C. E. Sheldon. George W. Crouse was the first president. The business was originally located on North Main st., at the Grand Opera house site. In 1893, the company consolidated with the Brigger Belting Company and elected A. B. Rinehart, general manager. The officers are: A. B. Rinehart, president; W. C. Metlin, vice president; George Wince, secretary; H. F. Adams, treasurer; C. G. Wanamaker, assistant treasurer. The product consists of leather belting

of all types made from bovine skins and also round leather belting, belt lacing and accessories.

The Baker McMillen Company was started forty-seven years ago by John W. Baker, J. C. McMillen and J. P. Teeple on the banks of the canal near Ash st., to make wooden boxes for shipping wooden smoking pipes made by Ayers & Merriam. Shortly afterwards these men acquired the pipe business. The bowls and stems were turned separately, the bowls being polished and the stems enameled, which brought them later into the enamelling business. Later they made cigar boxes, and dealt in stoneware pipes. The bowls were made of ordinary clay and shoveled on and off the wagons like coal. The stems were of reed, which was brought from the South in car lots. In 1890 the company was incorporated by the founders with C. F. Shutt and J. L. Noble. Later, John B. Wright was made a director.

The business gradually changed to its present product—turned and enamelled wooden handles. In March, 1892, the plant burned, and a new four-story brick building (still standing) was erected near by. The old water wheel and saw mill complete were never removed and were left buried in the debris of the fire.

A selling organization, the Western Enamelling Company, was formed and C. I. Bruner of Kokomo, Ind., was elected manager. This company was not particularly profitable but claims to have justified its existence by bringing to Akron, C. I. Bruner, president of The First Trust & Savings Bank.

In 1903 the Baker McMillen Company bought out the Akron Spirit Level Works owned by D. A. James and F. W. Pickton. This was developed for seven years during which time the output increased to the second largest in the United States. In 1910 the largest manufacturers in the line, The Stanley Rule & Level Co., at New Britain, Conn., bought the level business.

In 1914 the company sold its property on Bowery st., to The Quaker Oats Company and purchased the plant of the Pioneer Pole & Shaft Company, E. Miller ave., which plant is now used. The officers are H. B. Sperry, president and treasurer; A. F. Chandler, vice president; J. A. Sperry, secretary.

The Rybolt Heater Company was founded and developed by the three Rybolt Brothers of whom our present Mayor is one. The company has built up a very substantial business with foundries in Akron and branches at Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Akron. The present manager is H. L. Orton.

The Biggs Boiler Works, founded in 1887 by Lester M. Biggs is an outgrowth of the Summit City Boiler Co. A reorganization took place in 1900 giving the present name—The Biggs Boiler Works Company with Lester M. Biggs president; L. E. Biggs, general manager, and B. R. Barder, secretary. In 1908 Mr. Barder and F. G. Sherbondy procured the Biggs interests. Mr. Barder is president, Mr. Sherbondy, secretary and treasurer, G. J. Seeger, vice president.

The products of this company include rotary bleaching boilers for the paper industry, Vulcanizers and Devulcanizers for the rubber trade; Steel Tanks and Plate Construction and Riveted Steel Pipe for water works installations.

The Akron Varnish Company was founded in 1878 by J. M. Beck and E. G. Kubler under the name of Kubler & Beck. In 1897 they consolidated with the Imperial Varnish Company under the name of The Akron Varnish Company with J. H. McCrum and S. H. Kohler as the new personnel. Mr. Beck's sons, E. M., W. B. and Carl Beck, the latter formerly mayor of Akron, have been associated with the company during its development. The present officers are: F. M. Whitner, president and treasurer; C. F. Beck, vice president and general manager; G.

B. Marentay, secretary and vice president; C. T. Seeger, secretary. Their chief product is Black Baking Enamels although they also manufacture clear varnishes.

The Burger Iron Company was founded August 13, 1896 by J. A. Burger, A. Kull, J. A. Rohner, J. G. Bachman, G. A. Reichler. The present officers are: J. A. Burger, president; J. A. Rohner, vice president; M. M. Kindig, secretary and general manager; G. A. Rohner, treasurer. The business consists in designing, fabricating and erecting structural steel for buildings and bridges.

The Akron Lamp Company was established twenty-five years ago and incorporated in 1918. The officers are: J. C. Steese, president; W. C. Krisher, vice president and sales manager; A. C. Dick, secretary and treasurer.

They manufacture lamps, lanterns and self-heating sad irons, and sell them all over the world in districts not supplied with electricity or gas. One representative out of a dozen in Africa has sold a thousand lamps a year for more than ten years so that Akron is doing something to light "Darkest Africa."

Electric Motors are manufactured by The Imperial Electric Co.

The McNeil Boiler Company manufactures vulcanizers, devulcanizers, boilers, and similar equipment.

The Wellman Seaver Morgan Company absorbed some years ago one of Akron's pioneer industries, The Webster Camp & Land Co., and established very large machine shops here. This company however is now withdrawing from its Akron plant the bulk of its activities.

The Velte Bros. Mfg. Co., make upholstered furniture.

The Wadsworth Core Machinery Company maintains a foundry and machine shop shipping its products to foundries all over the world.

The Pittsburg File & Steel Co., make knives and files.

The Ornamental Iron Works Co., and the Portage Iron & Wire Co., make light steel structural products of all kinds.

The Colonial Salt Company located in Kenmore is an Akron concern, drilling over 2000 feet into the earth to the salt beds where the salt is dissolved, pumped to the surface and the water evaporated. The product moves in train loads every day.

The staple service industries present in every community are well developed in Akron. The many laundries, pattern shops, planing mills, sheet metal plants, and other establishments which supply the needs of Akron and of much surrounding territory are too numerous to mention individually. At best this chapter is incomplete and serves only to show that Akron is not devoted wholly to but two or three manufactured products.

Transportation

By James V. Blake

ABOUT the time that the Ohio canal was completed, the railroad craze was spreading with rapid, sometimes alarming and often disastrous results throughout the United States. The effect of this was soon felt in Akron, for as early as 1832, plans were discussed for building a road from some point on the Hudson river to the Portage Summit of the Ohio Canal. This caused much excitement here, but the project died early. That same year a stock subscription book was opened here to cover the cost of building a railroad from Akron to Perrysburg, being backed by such local men as E. Crosby, Richard Howe, and others. But nothing came of this, also. Four years later, it was planned to build a road from Akron, through Cuyahoga Falls, Hudson and Kirtland to Richmond, a proposed lake-port near Painesville. This project was fathered by Sidney Rigdon, who, next to Joseph Smith, was the most prominent member of the Morman settlement at Kirtland, but it lived only long enough to assume the name of The Akron and Richmond Railroad.

That same year, 1836, saw the beginning of The Cleveland and Pittsburg Railroad. But it seemed to meet an apparent Waterloo in the panic of 1837, and nothing was done for some years. However, the men who were behind it were not discouraged by any means, and kept everlastingly at it until in 1851, the first train between the two cities made its maiden trip; but it missed Akron by twleve miles, Hudson being the nearest point. In the meanwhile, Akron and Canton men talked much of building a railroad between those two towns, actually organiz-

ing a company of $200,000.00 capital to defray the initial cost. But the time for such an undertaking did not seem propitious, and the road did not materialize for some years.

With the Cleveland and Pittsburg trains actually running, the ignominy of having no railroad struck Akron with considerable force. Such men as Col. Simon Perkins, Milton W. Henry and John W. McMillen, of Akron, Horace A. Miller of Cuyahoga Falls, James Butler and Henry N. Day of Hudson and John Carey of Millersburg all saw that Akron and this territory could not develop without railroad facilities. So in 1851, they or-

Akron's First Union Depot, Erected 1852.

ganized The Akron and Hudson Branch Line, the work was begun immediately and on July 4, 1852, the first train rolled into Akron from Hudson. This is one of the big red-letter days in the city's history for then for the first time, Akron was in direct rail communication with the manufacturing centers of the eastern states. This road was extended at once to Orrville and Millersburg, and

then, little by little, to the southwest until it finally reached Columbus in 1872. It has been the battle-ground of financial fortunes and misfortunes, and its names have varied with its finances: Cleveland, Zanesville and Cincinnati; Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne and Chicago; Cleveland, Mt. Vernon and Delaware; Cleveland, Akron and Columbus; and finally a part of The Pennsylvania System.

Akron's citizens were aware that one railroad was not enough. Other territory must be reached. So when in 1851, the Hon. Marvin Kent, founder of the town that bears his name, organized The Coal Hill Railroad, to run between Franklin Mills (now Kent) and Warren, such men as Col. Simon Perkins, General Lucius V. Beirce, Harvey B. Spellman and Dr. Daniel Upson, all of Akron or vicinity, were listed among the incorporators. It was planned to extend the road from Warren east to Salamanca there to connect with the Erie, and from Franklin Mills west through Tallmadge and Akron to Dayton, there to join the Dayton and Hamilton Railroad and the Miami Canal. This road also had vicissitudes of various natures, but ultimately it became a part of The Atlantic and Great Western Railroad, now known as The Erie. Work on this road went forward slowly, and it was not until April 17, 1864, that the first Erie train reached Akron. But the line was pushed on quickly to Marion and Dayton, and so more territory was added to Akron's commercial map.

In 1869, the Cleveland and Canton Railroad was chartered, David L. King being the chief promotor. This was but the forerunner of another, the Valley Railroad, incorporated in 1871, of which David L. King and John F. Seiberling were directors, Mr. King being elected president in 1874. The first rail was not laid until 1878 and the first round trip from Cleveland to Canton was made on January 28, 1880, the return trip taking just two hours. The road was extended south to Valley Junc-

tion in 1884 and finally, in 1889, it was sold to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and so became a part of that system.

In March, 1881, Pittsburgh capitalists organized the Pittsburg, Youngstown and Chicago Railroad. This became known as The Pittsburg and Western, and was built along the line of the old, abandoned Pennsylvania and Ohio Canal, entering Akron at the Old Forge. This was leased in 1891 to The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and, with The Akron and Chicago Junction Railroad, built by the Baltimore and Ohio system in 1891 from Warwick to Chicago Junction, completed the line from Pittsburgh to Chicago. And so another trunk line was given to Akron.

In 1883, The Ohio Railroad was incorporated, and almost immediately changed the name to The Pittsburg, Akron and Western Railroad. Among its incorporators we find the names of David E. Hill, Lewis Miller and Col. A. L. Conger, all of Akron. Very little was done for some years and the first rails were not laid in Akron until 1891. Trains were soon running through to Medina, and then on to Delphos where the road connects with the Clover Leaf, enabling it to reach the points in the southwest. In 1895, it became the Northern Ohio Railroad, and had a varied financial career until 1920, when the Akron, Canton and Youngstown Railroad gained control of its stock and assumed the active management. This latter company, which has its main offices in Akron, was the outgrowth of The Akron and New-Castle Railroad Company (never built) and was constructed in 1912-1913 from Akron to Mogadore, O., where it connected with the Wheeling & Lake Erie, one of Ohio's prominent coal originating railroads. For twelve years The A. C. & Y., practically an Akron concern, has been a large factor in the movement of Akron's commerce. Its Akron facilities consist of an 800-car yard; two freight

stations; platforms for the handling of heavy and bulky articles such as road machinery, automobiles, etc.; and team tracks for the use of the general public located at convenient points adjacent to its eight miles of main line running through the heart of Akron. Its twenty-four locomotives furnish power for the prompt movement of traffic, and it is the boast of the company that it has continued to function properly even during the periods of labor troubles. It has an investment in Akron of almost $5,000,000, maintains its general offices in Akron, and approximately 500 of its 650 employees live in Akron or the immediate vicinity. H. B. Stewart is president of this company and J. C. Williams, general manager.

In 1890, The Akron and Barberton Belt Line Railroad was built by O. C. Barber to give better shipping facilities to his Barberton industries. This was an independent line until a few years ago when it was taken over and is now jointly managed by the four Akron lines.

During the past three quarters of a century, the railroads have done more to develop Akron than any other one outside agency. They have given the industries of the city every possible assistance in the matter of service, and now bring into Akron every year in the neighborhood of 250,000 carloads. In addition they carry about 450,000 passengers annually. And now in 1925, they are finally beginning the great grade elimination project, a tremendous undertaking from both a financial and an engineering standpoint, and something that will do away with the greatest menace that Akron has today.

The next thing they are asked to undertake is a new Union Depot. The present one is sadly inadequate. The original depot was a frame building "on the outskirts" of the town, a short distance south of the Mill street crossing, now the Mill Street Viaduct. When the present station was built in 1891, on the site of the old George L. Bates homestead on East Market street, the

Baltimore and Ohio and The Pennsylvania Railroads at once occupied it, but The Erie preferrred to have a depot of its own, and for some years occupied one which was built almost on the site of the original station. However, within a few years, they saw fit to join with the others, and now all Akron is hoping soon to have a Union Depot that will be in keeping with what Akron is, and with what she means to the other cities of the country.

But about forty years ago, the transportation problem suddenly shifted. The first solution had seemed to be the canal or water-way. Then came the steam railroad. But now appears the electric line, not so extensive in area, but far superior in caring for the city and the interurban traffic.

For some years prior to 1880, a line of herdics had been run on a more or less regular schedule from Middlebury down East Market street to the corner of Howard. But the city outgrew that service and in 1882, the Akron Street Railway Company was incorporated by Ira Miller, Will Christy and John E. Metlin, and was granted permission to run cars or herdics on many of the main thoroughfares. At once a strap-rail track was laid on Howard and Main streets from Federal street to the South corporation line and a line of horse cars installed. The project was not a financial success. The story goes that the only money the company made was in trading horses. In 1888, this property was sold to The Akron Street Railroad Company, headed by John S. Casement of Painesville and S. T. Everett of Cleveland, and to this company was given a twenty-five year franchise to run electric cars on the streets of Akron. Late in the same year an electric car line was running the full length of Market street. In 1889, the Akron Electric Street Railway Company bought all the property, rights and franchises then existing and, headed by John F. Seiberling, assumed complete con-

trol of their operation. In 1891 the officers of the company were: John F. Seiberling, president; John S. Casement, vice-president; F. A. Seiberling, secretary and treasurer and John E. Metlin, general superintendent. The fare was 11 tickets for half a dollar but patronage was light and oftentimes money must be borrowed to meet the weekly pay roll.

Meanwhile, about 1888, Akron had two rival electric light and power companies: The Akron Heat, Light and Power Company, headed by Ira Miller and The Citizens Light and Power Company, controlled by the Robinson interests. Some few years later these two companies were consolidated under the name of The Akron General Electric Company, and this company sold out to The Akron Electric Street Railway Company in 1895, and the name of the combined companies became The Akron Street Railway and Illuminating Company. Almost immediately after this, they were thrown into the hands of a receiver. E. C. Shaw, afterward with the Goodrich Company, was identified with the Akron General Electric concern.

General Samuel Thomas and F. A. Seiberling were made a Reorganization Committee, for the Street Railway and Illuminating Company, and finally, in 1900, all the rights and property were sold to the Everett interests of Cleveland, and The Northern Ohio Traction and Light Company came into being. With but few changes, this company has operated the lines ever since. For many years Chas. C. Currie was general manager and W. H. Douglas superintendent. A. C. Blinn is the present manager and D. A. Scanlon, superintendent. Chas. J. Lahr, secretary of the company, has the distinction of having been with the property for more than thirty years.

About 1893, a rival car line entered the field. Thomas F. Walsh was the leader in this and, being granted a

franchise, constructed what Akron knows as "the Mountain Line," through the Cuyahoga valley, past Bettes Corners and on to Cuyahoga Falls. Other lines were also added, and a spirited rivalry existed between the two lines for many years. But at the formation of The Northern Ohio Traction Company, this line also was taken over and made a part of the system.

Space will not permit tracing the growth of this company, step by step. It is a story of a public service corporation trying to keep pace with the growth of a city, in the case of Akron, almost an impossible feat. And yet from a single horse-drawn line in 1882, we now find tracks covering 65 miles of the city streets and a single company operating 125 cars regularly, besides an extension bus system.

From the electric street car came the electric interurban system. In 1895, John F. Seiberling extended the Akron lines on to Cuyahoga Falls, and that same year, Thomas F. Walsh started to build the Mountain Line on to Kent. In 1894, F. A. Seiberling, Will Christy, James Christy and Frank Howland secured the right of way for a line from Akron to Cleveland, and so The Akron, Bedford and Cleveland line was born. It was the first long distance electric railway in the world and is now acknowledged to be one of the finest electric lines in the country. In 1901, lines were extended from Kent to Ravenna, and in 1906, from Barberton to Wadsworth. Meanwhile the Canton line, promoted and fathered by Thomas Child, had been constructed, and then pushed on to Massillon and Uhrichsville. This and the Canton and Massillon city lines were taken over by the N. O. T. In 1924, the electric lines running from Ravenna to Warren and from Ravenna to Alliance were also acquired by The Northern Ohio Traction and Light Company. And so gradually, many whole counties were made an active part

of Akron's commercial territory, accessible by electric railways.

The frequency at which cars can be run, the comfort and the cleanliness, and the "express service at freight rates" in the matter of bringing commodities into the city and in the distribution of Akron products, has greatly assisted in the development of the city. Outside the Akron city lines, but including the city lines of Canton and Massillon which it operates, this $20,000,000.00 corporation operates 100 cars regularly, has 231 miles of track and carried 27,600,000 interurban passengers last year. The company employs about 2,600 men. In 1917 much was added to the down town appearance of the city and the convenience of travelers by the erection of the Terminal Building on North Main street, considered to be the best station exclusively devoted to interurban electric and bus service in America.

Another phase in the transportation problem has met with a solution only within the past few years. The city has grown in every direction too rapidly to build street car lines to those districts. Suburban developments have opened up new territories which commercial Akron needed, and yet which have not been served either by steam or electric roads. To care for this traffic, automobile engineers developed the motor bus, and Akron engineers and chemists have brought forth that which makes the bus possible, the bus and truck tire. To such an extent has this transportation feature grown that not only does The Northern Ohio Traction and Light Company reach every section of Akron's territory with its cars or local busses, but there is not a city or town within a radius of fifty miles that does not have its "Akron Bus Line." This company alone maintains 70 local busses, either as through "down-town" carriers or as feeders to their street car lines. They cover about 48 miles of routing and in 1924, carried about 7,000,000 passengers. There

are also 20 busses now being run from Akron to important centers nearby, covering 128 miles of road and last year carried over half a million passengers. In addition, independent companies or individuals maintain regular bus service to points not touched by the company lines.

Mails, Wires and Wireless

By Henry M. Hagelbarger

THE construction of the Ohio canal from Summit lake to Cleveland was under way in the summer of 1825, bringing laborers and contractors as well as persons engaged in other lines of business to this point, and the only postal facilities available, necessitated persons who wished to receive mail, to make a two-mile trip to Middlebury (now East Akron). Consequently, early in 1826, the Akron post office was instituted, and Wolsey Wells was the first postmaster. Mr. Wells was a lawyer and was soon afterwards elected justice of the peace. When the canal was opened to navigation, July 4, 1827, he was appointed collector of tolls for the port of Akron.

Squire Wells had a two-story house on the southwest corner of West Exchange and Water sts., which was afterwards converted into a hotel, (and for many years known as "The Summit House." In the front room of this house Squire Wells had his law office, his justice of the peace court room, the post office and the canal collector's office. When Abraham Lincoln was storekeeper and postmaster at New Salem, Ill., in 1833, he used his plug hat in which to keep the ponderous mail; but Postmaster Wells was better equipped than Lincoln, for he had a cabinet in which he kept the mail, which was in size two feet by eighteen inches, and provided with pigeon holes where he kept the letters for the various patrons of the office.

The mail was brought from other places to the Akron post office by various means, each and all of which were slow and laborious. As an illustration, there were other post offices established along the

line of the then unfinished Ohio canal, and in the spring of 1826, Major Miner Spicer took the contract for carrying the mail weekly between Akron and Bolivar (a small town on the Ohio canal in Tuscarawas county), and the service was regularly and faithfully performed by Mr. Spicer's nine and a half year old son, Hiram J. Spicer.

Mr. Wells continued as postmaster until he removed from Akron, April, 1833. He was succeeded by Lewis Humiston, a Democrat, then proprietor of the Clark Hotel on the northeast corner of Main and Exchange sts. Mr. Humiston erected a small building immediately east of the hotel about twelve by fifteen feet in size, where the post office was kept, and Arad Kent was deputy postmaster.

Mr. Humiston removed from the town in 1837. Harvey H. Johnson, a justice of the peace, and later mayor of Akron (1842-43) and a few years later a congressman from the Ashland district, was appointed postmaster, and the office was removed to "Cascade" into the north end of the Buckley building at the northeast corner of Howard and Mill sts.

As indicating the diminutive size of the town in those days, this removal of the post office from the center, Main and Exchange sts., was the cause of a great deal of bad feeling on the part of the citizens living south of the new location.

Mr. Johnson's successor in the post office in April, 1845, was Dr. Dana D. Evans, and he removed the office to a room in the southwest corner of the old stone block on the east side of South Howard st., nearly opposite Cherry st., and two years later it was removed to the north side of East Market st., a short distance from Main st., about where the present Hermes building is located.

Frank Adams, (father of Frank H. Adams, who

resides on West Market st.) was appointed postmaster on April 1, 1849, and held the office until May, 1853. Mr. Adams removed the post office to the east side of South Howard st.

Edward W. Perrin was appointed postmaster in 1853, and the office was then moved to what was known as the Matthews building, a few doors north of where it had been previously, where it remained for nearly twenty years.

West Side of Howard St., Between Cherry and Main, 1873. An Early Telegraph Office On the Right.

In August, 1857, Mr. Perrin resigned to go into the stockraising business in Texas, and a well known Democratic politician and lawyer, Roland O. Hammond, was appointed postmaster, which office he held until 1861 when he was succeeded by Richard S. Elkins, a Republican, and one of the proprietors and associate editor of The Summit Beacon.

The next postmaster of Akron was James B. Storer, an ex-soldier, who had been badly wounded in the Civil War, who held the office for twelve years.

It was under the administration of Postmaster Storer, in March, 1879, that the free mail delivery system was established in Akron. Under Mr. Storer, Harry J. Shreffler was assistant postmaster.

Upon the installation of the free delivery system, George W. Schick was made superintendent of carriers, which position he has held ever since,—a continuous period of wonderfully efficient service of forty-five years.

Upon Mr. Storer's appointment as postmaster July 1, 1870, the office was removed from the Matthews building where it had continuously remained for seventeen years, to the Masonic building at the northeast corner of Howard and Mill sts., where it remained until May 30, 1893, when it was moved to the old Schumacher Company's office building, owned by The American Cereal Company, at the southeast corner of Mill and Broadway.

The next postmaster was Captain James H. Morrison, who took the office in 1882, and was succeeded by William Chauncey Alley, August 16, 1886, who held the office until February 11, 1891, when he was succeeded by William B. Gamble, who had been sheriff of Summit county, and who is now one of the clerks in the police court of Akron.

Upon a change of administration, William B. Dobson, one of the owners and publishers of the Akron Daily Democrat, was appointed postmaster and took office March 5, 1895.

Mr. Dobson was succeeded by Dr. L. S. Ebright, who was appointed by President McKinley, and took office on September 1, 1897.

William B. Baldwin, formerly editor of The Beacon-Journal, and now editor and publisher of The Medina Gazette, became postmaster in January, 1910. Mr. Baldwin resigned to accept the office of tax com-

missioner of Summit county in November, 1913, and was succeeded by A. Ross Read. The present incumbent, C. Nelson Sparks, became postmaster on the 16th day of May, 1921, and is efficiently administering the increasingly large affairs of the office.

The government finally erected a post office building at the southeast corner of High and East Market sts., into which the post office was moved, July 29, 1899, and which building at the time it was constructed, was supposed to be adequate for many years to come, but which has long since proven to be wholly too small for the increased demands upon it.

A lot has been purchased by the government at the southwest corner of Prospect and East Market sts. (formerly the home of Judge W. H. Upson) but there is no immediate prospect of a new building. The revenues have continuously increased from year to year until today the postal receipts aggregate $1,235-, 841.61 annually. There are now 141 carriers, and the total number of employes regularly connected with the service in Akron is 335. Classified stations connected with the Akron post office are: Kenmore, East Akron, Goodrich, Firestone Park and West Akron. There are also sixteen contract stations in business houses.

Thus Akron's postal service has gone hand in hand with the progress of the country from the time when mail was received once a week by canal boat, horseback carriers, and horse-drawn vehicles, to the express train, which is facilitated to some extent by the airplane carriers, and mail is thus brought into and sent out from Akron no less than thirty-seven times daily.

TELEGRAPHY

The telegraph instrument was invented by Samuel F. B. Morse in 1835, but no application for a United States patent was filed until the year 1837, and the

first practical use that was made of the instrument in a business way, was on a line from Washington to Baltimore, which was built at government expense and opened for use, May 24, 1844. The first telegraph office in Akron was an office of The Lake Erie Telegraph Company, opened November 12, 1847, by D. V. Benedict and H. C. Hepburn. The line extended from Pittsburgh to Cleveland by way of Beaver Falls, Lisbon, Massillon, Canton, Akron and Cuyahoga Falls.

Through various consolidations with other telegraph companies, the business was continued, and on April 4, 1856, The Western Union Telegraph Company was organized, and has continued the business from that day to this.

The receipts of the Akron telegraph office for the month of January, 1849, were only $41.72, while the expenses for the same month were $49.60. Among the early managers of the Akron office was L. H. Nichols and also John Van Horne, who was later vice president of The Western Union Company.

Frank Adams was not only postmaster from 1849 to 1853, but he was also Akron's first "electric telegraph agent," and William C. Allen was a clerk in the Akron post office and a telegraph operator, giving part time to each of said duties from about 1852 to 1861.

About 1861 the two positions were separated, and Mr. Allen became the local manager of The Union Telegraph Company, which position he held for twenty-four years. This company was one of a number of small independent telegraph lines, and because there were so many different lines, messages sent to distant parts of the country were very uncertain as to the time of delivery, the different companies not cooperating to a very great extent, but working as separate units.

Some time afterwards this condition was remedied

by the merging of all of the smaller companies into the two well known great corporations known as the Western Union and the Postal.

In 1868, the local office of The Western Union company was at Mill and Howard sts. All messages were then recorded on a tape, the art of reading by sound not having been developed at that time. Probably one messenger did all the work with plenty of time to spare.

In 1875 the office was moved to the Good block on East Market st., and in 1885 to the former Beacon newspaper building, Main and Mill sts., at which time the company had a manager, two operators and a clerk.

About 1885 The Merchants Telegraph Company established its telegraph business in Akron, and this company maintained a single line between New York and Cleveland, the line to Akron being an extension from Cleveland. This company has long since been absorbed by The Postal Telegraph and Cable Company.

The Western Union has its main office now in the Delaware building, 141 South Main st., with considerable space in the Second National building, and five branch offices located in different parts of the city. The Postal Telegraph and Cable Company is located in the Buchtel Hotel building. These companies now employ more than one hundred persons, and handle six or seven thousand messages daily.

Years ago, there were only two classes of domestic service offered, to wit, the day message and the night message. In addition to these, we now have the day letter and night letter with liberal allowance of fifty words. There are also five different classes of cable service, whereas there were formerly only the full rate cablegrams. The companies now handle the

cable letter, week-end letter, deferred and preferred service in addition.

Contrary to the expectation of many business men, when the telephone became general in its use, it was a factor in increasing the growth of telegraphy. Telephone subscribers are now permitted to file telegrams by telephone, and many incoming telegraph messages are delivered over the telephone.

The growth of industry and the demand for rapid communication have been anticipated, and have been met with improvements in the telegraph facilities such as the quadruplex, the duplex, and the automatic printing telegraph with an hourly capacity of 1,000 messages. Both companies are equipped with the finest labor-saving devices, and the excellent service they render has done much for the citizens of Akron as a whole, and especially for manufacturers and merchants.

TELEPHONY

Telephony is defined as the art of reproducing sounds at a distance from their source, and a telephone is the instrument employed in sending or receiving such sounds. Alexander Graham Bell came to America from Edinburgh, Scotland, where he was born, to teach deaf and dumb pupils in the public schools of Boston, and was afterwards employed as such instructor and as instructor in elocution at Boston University.

While the telephone was recognized as an interesting invention, yet its practical use for business purposes was not discerned or discovered at that time, and the business world, as is customary, was too conservative to adopt it until it had proven its worth through its gradual extension, which taxed the financial ability of all of the friends whom Bell could enlist in launching the project.

The first telephone installed in Akron, which was

in 1877, by Dr. B. F. Goodrich from his residence, which was then located on the street now called Quaker st., (but then called Water st.) to his rubber factory on Rubber st., where the factory that bears his name is now located, the telephone being a gift from Professor Bell, its inventor, who was a warm friend of Dr. Goodrich.

No doubt Dr. Goodrich conferred a great favor upon Mr. Bell by consenting to have this telephone installed, because in its infancy, it was very difficult to induce anyone to invest money in the enterprise, and it was not thought to be practical for business purposes.

The second telephone in Akron was installed by Lewis Miller from his residence on the hill just south of the entrance to Glendale cemetery, to his office at the Buckeye Mower and Reaper works, in 1878. Walter K. Means was then a high school boy, and on Saturdays and during odd hours, it was his duty in helping at the Buckeye office, to answer the telephone calls, which he says were somewhat numerous, because every visitor to the Miller home took occasion to call up the Buckeye office on the telephone.

On September 8, 1879, the council of the City of Akron granted The Akron Telephone Company a four-year franchise to use the streets for their poles and wires, and furnish telephones to those persons who desired them. As an illustration of the difficulty with which the telephone business was started in the United States, in the year 1880, Theodore N. Vail was employed as general manager of the Bell Telephone organization in the United States at a salary of $3,500 a year, and in its early days, the finances of the Bell organization were in such condition that when Mr. Vail had ordered $7 worth of goods from a merchant named Tillotson, 15 Dey st., New York,

the merchant replied that the goods were ready and so was the bill, thus indicating that the company was without credit, and was buying its equipment from hand to mouth.

In the early days of the struggle of the Bell telephone interests, the Bell patent was attacked by The Western Union Telegraph Company. This company at first wholly ignored the telephone which Mr. Bell had invented, and with such great difficulty induced the public to purchase and use; but afterwards, as quickly as the Western Union discovered that the telephone was likely to be a competitor in business, it brought a suit against the Bell Company, claiming that the Western Union had inventions which were prior to that of Mr. Bell. Upon further investigation, the Western Union became convinced that the Bell patent was valid, and the suit was dismissed, and an arrangement entered into so that the two companies from then on worked harmoniously each in its proper field.

Largely through the efforts of Mr. Vail, who was a genius in the organization and management of great enterprises, the Bell telephone has made wonderful progress in the art of telephony in the United States.

About the year 1898 a bitter fight occurred between the officials of the City of Akron and The Central Union Telephone Company, which was a Bell company, and as the result of this fight, a local telephone company was organized by local business men, known as The Akron Peoples Telephone Company. This company did not supplant the Central Union, but divided the business. The Akron company installed what are known as automatic telephones, and began operation in the year 1899.

While perhaps the presence of two competing

telephone companies in the city kept the rates down, yet for business men it is doubtful if there was any advantage in having two companies, for the reason that any business concern that desired to reach all of the telephone subscribers in the city, had to subscribe to the service of both companies and put up with the annoyance and inconvenience of having two telephone instruments on their desks instead of one, and likewise paying the rates of both companies, which together naturally were higher than the rates of one company would have been.

In 1921, The Central Union Telephone Company sold its property to a new Bell organization called The Ohio Bell Telephone Company, and with the approval of governmental, state and city authorities, consolidated that company with the old Akron Peoples Telephone Company, which had in the mean-time changed its name to The Ohio State Telephone Company.

Therefore, today there is in Akron only one telephone company furnishing telephone service, to wit, The Ohio Bell Telephone Company, and it has very largely increased its lines and equipment, enlarged its facilities, and has cable lines through all large cities, and trunk lines running in every direction; every part of the United States is in constant, direct communication with Akron industries at all times. There are at present in the city of Akron about 22,500 telephones.

THE FIRST TYPEWRITER

In the year 1876 there was exhibited on Howard st., one of the first typewriting machines in Akron, which was made by The Remington Arms Company, and called the Sholes-Glidden typewriter. Nathan A. Means (father of Walter A. and K. Means, now connected with The B. F. Goodrich Company) purchased this typewriter in 1876, and personally used the machine in his office as purchasing agent of the Aultman,

Miller & Company. Unquestionably this was the first use made of a typewriter in a business office in Akron.

E. Lackey was the first court stenographer in Akron, and of course made use of a typewriter in transcribing testimony as early as 1880, and possibly a year or two before that. Another of the early stenographers in Akron was Harry Crowther of the Aultman, Miller & Company office force, also Miss Alice Chisnell, secretary to Col. A. L. Conger of The Whitman & Barnes Manufacturing Company.

RADIO

Jack J. Gritton, who resides at 849 Keeney st., Akron, and is vice president of the Sun Radio, Inc., and who is the station manager and chief announcer of the WADC Broadcasting station at the Portage Hotel, Akron, came to Akron from Cleveland in August, 1912, and brought with him a small radio outfit which he had made himself and which consisted of not only a receiving set but in a very limited sense, a sending set. This, so far as can be ascertained, was the first radio used in Akron.

In the spring of 1913, Leo Price and Paul Derr, two Akron young men, began using radio outfits which they had made themselves, and when Mr. Gritton learned that fact, he promptly arranged with the young men to form a club, and they thereupon formed The Akron Radio Club, which is still in existence. Donald A. Hoffman, Darley F. Thurnes, Lloyd H. Miller, G. Franklin Dales and Roland Palmer built and used radios in 1913; and Donald A. Hoffman who at that time resided at 56 South Balch st., had the first radio outfit store in Akron, at his home.

In those early days of the radio, to wit, in the fall of 1912 and in 1913, the only reports or information obtainable over the radio were from commercial sta-

tions sending out weather reports and messages back and forth from the ships to the land, and time signals from Arlington, Va., and from Key West, Fla.

The first broadcasting station established in Akron was an amateur station built by Donald Hoffman at his home, 56 South Balch st. This was a ten-watt station, and he broadcasted the music from Victrola records, and was able to send a distance of about twenty miles.

After Hoffman built his station, Alfred Bachtel of Akron built a similar amateur broadcasting station, and then Hoffman and Bachtel would play checkers by radio, and the other young men in the city who had receiving sets, would get out their checker boards and follow the moves of these two checker players, by radio.

On Armistice Day, November 11, 1921, President Harding's address at the burial of the Unknown Soldier, at Arlington Cemetery, Washington, D. C., was delivered before a specially arranged receiver connected to a high power radio transmitting circuit. In many large cities, receivers provided with amplifiers were set up, with the result that every word spoken by the president was distinctly heard by large audiences in various parts of the country.

This notable demonstration furnished the suggestion, instantly acted on, to "broadcast" news items, market reports, music, lectures, addresses and sermons, etc., from large radio stations to any individual who would provide himself with a simple outfit, closely resembling the common radio receiving set, but including a vacuum tube amplifier.

The first licensed broadcasting station in Akron was constructed by The Buckeye Radio Service Company in the fall of 1921, the station being known as

WOE, located on South Main st., near the Goodrich works, and was discontinued in January, 1924.

The next broadcasting station was what is known as a temporary station, installed at the Akron Automobile Show at the Central garage on Ash st., in February, 1925, and was only operated during the show.

The next broadcasting station, which is still in operation as a licensed station for a general broadcasting business, was installed and began operation in the Portage Hotel on April 8, 1925, by Allen T. Simmons of the Allen Theater, Akron. Jack Gritton did the work of installation, and is the station manager and chief announcer. The station is known as WADC, which translated into words gives the slogan: "Watch Akron Develop Commerce."

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company constructed a commercial wireless telegraph station in 1912 for communication with their Detroit branch and their Canadian factory. The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company in Cleveland, WEAR, does a general broadcasting business. The B. F. Goodrich Company has an arrangement at present with fourteen different stations, including WADC, for relaying the Silvertown Cord Orchestra from New York City.

Law and Lawyers

By John C. Frank

THE history of the bar, so far as it is distinct from purely biographical matter, is largely buried in court records, and to a lesser degree in the acts of the General Assembly. No one has ever been to the pains of sifting the cumbersome and undigested records of the courts with the view of extracting the modicum of history they contain, and until this is painstakingly done, the legal history of our country and of its bar cannot be adequately written. It scarcely needs to be suggested, that there has been no adequate opportunity for such research in the preparation of this sketch.

Under the governor's proclamation of July 27, 1788, all that part of Ohio lying east of the Cuyahoga, Tuscarawas and Muskingum rivers, and the portage between the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas, was erected into a county called Washington County, and by proclamation of the following year (August 15, 1796) the territory west of the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas, and the portage between them as far as Fort Wayne, Indiana, and north to Lake Michigan, was erected into a county under the name of Wayne County. One year later (July 29, 1797) the territory east of the Cuyahoga river and as far south as the fourth township in the third range of townships, surveyed under Act of Congress of May, 1785, was detached from Washington County and erected into a separate county under the name of Jefferson County. On July 10, 1800, the entire Connecticut Western Reserve was erected into a county called Trumbull County. It will be observed from the foregoing that Summit County east of the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas rivers was first Wash-

ington County, then Jefferson County, and later Trumbull County; while west of the Cuyahoga, it was Wayne County, the last named county including a large portion of the state of Michigan. The territory about the city of Detroit still bears the name of Wayne County.

By act of December 31, 1805, those townships of the Western Reserve east of the Cuyahoga river in the towns north of the towns numbered five, in all of the ranges, were erected into Geauga County. Two years later (February 10, 1807) Portage County was erected out of Trumbull, and included all that part of Trumbull County west of the fifth range of townships. By the same act all that part of the Western Reserve west of the Cuyahoga river and south of townships numbered five were added to Portage county.

The temporary seat of justice for the new county of Portage was established at the house of Benjamin Tappan, near Ravenna.

The constitution of 1802 vested the judicial power of the state in a supreme court, courts of common pleas, and justices of the peace. The supreme court was to consist of three judges, and was to hold one session in each county annually, and likewise to hold one session in bank annually in Columbus. The state was divided into three circuits, for each of which a president judge was provided; the president judge with two or three associate judges from each county, constituted the court of common pleas. The president judge was a lawyer, while the associate judges were not necessarily lawyers, and were commonly referred to as "farmer judges." The president judge received a salary of $1200 per year, which was two hundred dollars in excess of the governor's salary. The associate judges received $2.50 per day for the time actually spent in holding court; but the terms of court were then few and short, and the chief visible function of the associate judges was to keep the president

judge constantly supplied with chewing tobacco, the president judge being the chief wheel in the machine of justice. Calvin Pease was the first president judge for the circuit.

An inspection of the legal documents of record in the county offices reinforces the surviving oral tradition that there were giants in those days. Calvin Pease was not only pre-eminent in his own day, but was actually a great lawyer. Benjamin Tappan of Ravenna was the first lawyer to practice within this jurisdiction, his name appearing of record in cases as early as 1808. He was a native of Massachusetts, where he received his professional education. He located near Ravenna in the summer of 1799, was the compiler of Tappan's reports, and was elected to the United States senate in 1838.

Calvin Pease came to Ohio in 1800. He was elected president judge of the third circuit at the age of twenty-seven. He became judge of the supreme court in 1816, and was pre-eminent among the judges of the state. He was a brother-in-law of Gideon Granger, postmaster-general under President Jefferson. Thomas Ewing once said of him that of all the judges before whom he had ever appeared, Calvin Pease was the greatest.

The first term of the court of common pleas sat on the twenty-third day of August, 1808, Calvin Pease being president judge, and Henry Wetmore, Aaron Norton and Amzi Atwater the associate judges. Tradition has it that the court convened under a large tree near the ruins of Benjamin Tappan's dwelling, which was burned to the ground the night before the court convened.

On the first day of the term, Samuel Taylor was called to the bar of the court for contemptuous behavior and convicted on "personal view of the court" and adjudged to pay a fine of five dollars. The record warrants the inference, that the premiere session of the court was an event of such moment that it occasioned an excess of

induced conviviality, with the result that the said Samuel was adjudged guilty of contempt.

At the same term William Simcox of Franklin was indicted and tried on the charge of disturbing a religious assembly by hunting and allowing his hounds to bark in close proximity to a place where services were being held.

Aaron Norton, one of the associate judges, likewise found himself a defendant in a case brought against him at the very first term of court, and confessed judgment in the sum of $67.41, and applied for, and secured a stay of execution until the next term of court.

The first bootlegging case was up at the December term, 1809, in which Joshua King of Hudson was indicted and convicted of selling to Phineas Shepherd of Northampton less than one quart of whisky. The transaction would have been wholly innocuous as to its legal phase, had the sale been for a larger quantity than one quart. Now turn-about is fair play; and at the May term, 1813, Phineas Shepherd was indicted on the charge of selling to Joshua King one pound of tea "not of the growth or manufacture of the United States," without a license, and "with intent to defraud the revenue of the county." On trial Shepherd was convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of twenty-five cents.

At the August term, 1810, Jenny Hall, widow of Robert Hall, filed her petition in Chancery, alleging that her husband, on the 26th day of June, 1806, had contracted with Simon Perkins of Warren, as the agent and attorney to Joseph Howland, to purchase a tract of 538 acres of land situated in township One in the tenth range of townships (Springfield Township) and in *lot six* in said township.

That in pursuance of the contract, Robert Hall went into possession of a tract of land in said township *supposing it to be the land covered by said contract,* made large improvements thereon by clearing the land and

erecting buildings. "Now, so it is, may it please the court, that upon examination, it appears that the said Robert by mistake, did not take up the land in said contract specified, but instead thereof went into possession of land owned by Simon Perkins personally in *lot seven* in Springfield township." The prayer of the bill was that Simon Perkins may be bound to convey to the heirs of said Robert, 538 acres in lot seven in place of the land covered by the contract, and on hearing, the conveyance was ordered.

The first trial for murder was that of Henry Aungst for the murder of Epaphras Matthews. The indictment is curious to a twentieth century lawyer. This indictment, returned at the January term, 1815, recited that Henry Aungst, otherwise called Henry Angest, otherwise called Henry Oungest, late of Pittsburgh, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, yeoman, otherwise laborer, being a person of sound memory and discretion, not having the fear of God before his eyes, but being moved by the instigation of the devil, on the 20th day of August in the year of our Lord, Eighteen Hundred Fourteen, at Franklin in the County of Portage, and within the jurisdiction of this court, with force and arms in and upon one Epaphras Matthews, a human being in the peace of God, and of this state, then and there being felonously, wickedly, wilfully, and of his malice aforethought, did make an unlawful assault; and the said Henry Aungst, otherwise called Henry Angest, otherwise called Henry Oungest, with *a certain blue beach sapling of the length of four and one-half feet, and of the value of six cents,* which he, the said Henry Aungst, otherwise called Henry Angest, otherwise called Henry Oungest, in both his hands then and there had and held him, the said Epaphras Matthews in and upon the right side of the head of him, the said Epaphras Matthews, then and there

wilfully and of his malice aforethought did with force and arms unlawfully strike, etc."

The next murder trial was that of Abner S. Harris in 1832 for the murder of Nathan Cummins on the canal at Old Portage.

An early case of interest was that of William S. Hart vs. Owen Brown, tried in 1820. The plaintiff resided in Tallmadge, not Hollywood; while the defendant, Brown, was a resident of Hudson, and was the father of "Old John Brown," the arch-enemy of slavery. The action was in trover, and the declaration, according to the practice in those days, alleged "that the said William S. Hart, complains of the said Owen Brown for that the said William S. Hart on the first day of November, 1817, at Tallmadge in the county aforesaid, was possessed of as his own property, certain goods and chattels, to wit a certain stove-pipe, of the value of $70, and being so possessed thereof, the same, afterwards, to wit, on the day and year last aforesaid, at Tallmadge aforesaid, was *casually lost* and then and there came into the possession of said Owen Brown *by finding* and the said Owen Brown, well knowing the said stove-pipe to be the property, goods and chattels of the said William S. Hart, with force and arms converted the same to his own use, and then and there refused to deliver the same to the said William S. Hart, though often requested and demanded, to the damage of said William S. Hart of $60.00, and therefore he brings this suit." Brown appeared and entered a plea of not guilty. A jury trial was had and a verdict returned "That the said Owen Brown *is* guilty in manner and form as the said William S. Hart alleged against him, and thereupon find for the said William S. Hart to recover against the said Owen Brown the sum of One Dollar and sixty-five cents."

John S. Edwards was the second, and Darius Lyman the third lawyer in point of time to represent Summit

county territory before the bar of justice. Jonathan Sloane, whose name is intimately associated with Summit county real estate transactions was the next lawyer to appear, and settled at Ravenna in 1816, and was a member of congress from 1833 to 1837. General Lucius V. Bierce was the fifth lawyer in order of time, and was in his day and generation a leading criminal lawyer of Northern Ohio. He was a native of Connecticut, came to this state while young, graduated at the Ohio University at Athens, and was admitted to the bar at Ravenna in 1825. There were then three lawyers located at Ravenna, namely Darius Lyman, Jonathan Sloane and Lucius V. Bierce; but the county court was frequently honored with the presence at the trial table of such famous lawyers as Peter Hitchcock, Elisha Whittlesey and Governor Reuben Wood.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, General Bierce, though sixty years old, raised two companies of marines, boarded them for two days, and delivered them to the Washington Navy Yard. Returning home, he raised a company of one hundred men for the artillery service. He was too old to go into service himself, but was appointed assistant adjutant general of the United States in 1863. He bequeathed all of his property to the City of Akron, the Public Library occupying the site of his residence.

In those early days, a very large share of the cases which engaged the attention of the courts were cases for the partition of real estate. The earliest case of this kind involving Summit county lands was brought at the December term, 1810, wherein Simon Perkins filed a petition for the partition of sundry lands in Lot seven, Springfield township, owned by him in common with Gideon Granger, Oliver Phelps and others.

The McKissen murder committed in Northfield in 1837, was one of the famous criminal trials of the early days. The victim was Catherine McKissen, wife of Rob-

ert McKissen. Samuel McKissen, brother-in-law of the victim, and his son, David McKissen, had to stand trial for the offense. General Bierce represented the state in both trials. The defense of David McKissen was conducted by R. T. Spaulding and David Todd. Samuel McKissen was acquitted, while his son, David, was convicted, and suffered the death penalty at Ravenna, February, 1838, in the presence of the largest concourse of interested spectators that had so far assembled in this neck of the woods.

W. S. C. Otis began the practice of law at Ravenna in association with Jonathan Sloane, but settled in Akron in 1840. He was a judge of the supreme court from 1348 to the adoption of the new constitution. On leaving the bench he removed to Cleveland from which place he was elected to congress. As a lawyer and statesman he achieved a wide reputation. His heirs recently recovered from the city of Akron the ground on the west side of North Howard st., known as Marion Park.

Daniel S. Tilden came to Ohio about 1830, studied law with Judge Spaulding at Warren, where he first practiced. In 1850 he removed to Akron and was master commissioner in the litigation proceedings against the Portage Canal and Manufacturing Company.

Christopher P. Wolcott, first located in Ravenna, and later removed to Akron, and achieved a wide reputation. He was attorney-general of Ohio from 1856 to 1861. He was a brother-in-law of Edwin M. Stanton, under whom he served as assistant secretary of war. In 1859 the cases of Bushnell and Langston, indicted in Cuyahoga county for rescuing a fugitive slave, were heard together on proceedings in habeas corpus before the supreme court. Mr. Wolcott appeared for the state, insisting that the relators be discharged. Not only was this case one of very great importance, but Mr. Wolcott's oral argument so impressed the supreme court that it was ordered printed

in full in the report of the case. This is probably the only instance in the legal history of Ohio where an attorney's address before the supreme court has been printed in full. The case is reported in 9 Ohio State Reports, beginning at page 77. Mr. Wolcott's argument covers nearly a hundred pages of the volume, and is a model of elegance, and very impressive, because of its extensive treatment of constitutional questions. At the risk of trespassing on the space allotted to this sketch, the opening and closing sentences of this great argument are here quoted.

"May it please your honors:

"It is to be regretted that the learned counsel, who on this occasion represent the government of the United States, have (as one of their number has just announced to your honors) concluded not to argue this cause in open court, because that conclusion deprives us of all those advantages which grow out of an orderly oral discussion, where voice responds to voice, and eye looks into eye, the best mode which the wit of man has yet devised for eliciting the truth as between contending parties."

In closing, Mr. Wolcott said:

"And, here, I leave with your honors this case and all the great interests which it involves. Weightier consequences never hung on the arbitrament of any tribunal. The strain of the federative system has come, and your honors are to determine, at least for the citizens of Ohio, whether under that system there can be any adequate protection for the reserved rights of the states, or any efficient safeguards for the liberty of the citizens. The cause of constitutional government is here and now on trial. God send it a safe deliverance."

The supreme court did not follow Mr. Wolcott's argument, but remanded the prisoners. The court was, in fact, divided, three of the judges, including Chief Justice

Swan, holding that the prisoners must be remanded, while Judges Brinkerhoff and Sutliff dissented.

Probably the most important case relating to Summit county matters to engage the attention of the court while we were still an integral part of Portage county, was the case of Seth Iredell against Eliakim Crosby, Simon Perkins and Leicester King, brought in the year 1836, and involving a controversy growing out of the promotion of the village of North Akron. In the pleadings of this case, contracts and documents between the litigants were brought into the record which are not extant elsewhere, and which throw substantial light on the course of events which led to the building up of Akron. Mr. Iredell in his complaint alleged that Perkins and Crosby, both owners of land in and about Akron, had agreed upon the organization of a joint stock company, to unite portions of their land and erect mills, for their common advantage; Crosby and Iredell were engaged as partners in a mercantile business in Middlebury; Crosby had discovered that the waters of the Little Cuyahoga river could be diverted from its channel, at or near Middlebury, and made available for water-power in Akron. Lacking capital, Crosby requested Iredell to join him in the promotion and development of the water-power project; and Iredell did join the enterprise, and assisted Crosby, so he said, in raising large sums of money; Crosby had secured a contract of purchase from King for a tract of over nine hundred acres of land, including the 300-acre tract on which the village plat of North Akron was laid out. It was Iredell's contention that he was entitled to a one-half interest in Crosby's holdings, and that Crosby refused to recognize his interest in the enterprise, and that he was obliged to seek redress from the court. It appears in the case, from the answer of Simon Perkins that on July 16, 1831, Perkins and Crosby had, for the consideration of $8,000, entered into a contract, by which Perkins agreed

to convey to Crosby the three hundred acre tract on which the town of Cascade (Akron) was to be laid out. He also agreed to loan Crosby one thousand dollars for his enterprise. Crosby agreed to dig a race to conduct the waters of Little Cuyahoga river to the town of Cascade at the level of lock five, and to erect a complete set of grist-mills with not less than four run of stones, and with machinery sufficient and proper to manufacture superfine flour, fit for the foreign market. A few months later, in December, 1831, Crosby needing additional funds, entered into a new agreement with Perkins by which the latter became jointly interested with Crosby in his enterprise and Perkins agreed to advance the further sum of six thousand dollars to Crosby to enable him to complete his enterprise and Perkins was to have a one-third interest. A few years later, July, 1833, Crosby again applied to Perkins for further assistance, which was furnished, and the joint enterprise was so modified that Perkins had a half interest therein. Later, in 1834, Leicester King having become the purchaser of certain canal lands in Akron, joined the syndicate, and the three became equal owners of the enterprise. The legal title to the various lands contributed by Crosby, Perkins and King was conveyed to the latter as trustee. The answer of King filed in the case alleged that up to August 15, 1835, about $61,000 had been expended in the project; that contracts for the sale of lots had been made aggregating $46,000, but that only $9,875 had been collected. Crosby and Iredell reached an adjustment of their difficulties, and the controversy never came to trial.

And there was also high finance in those days; the promoter was already in the land. The Boston Land Company bought a large tract of land in Boston township and laid out a great city. The plat is still in existence, but the city is only a name. However, in 1832 it contained the largest banking establishment in Ohio, if not in

the United States. It was operated by William G. Taylor of Cleveland, Dan Brown of Rising Sun, Indiana, James Brown of Boston, and Col. William Ashley of Vermont. Gen. Bierce, writing of this aggregation of individuals says: "A more noble set of men never met to consult on the affairs of the State Bank of Ohio; and excepting the fact that they never had a charter of the state, authorizing them to swindle, a more honest set of men never congregated as a board of control. Taylor was a lawyer, a man of education, talent and wealth. Dan Brown was a merchant—the finest looking and most accomplished gentleman in the West. James Brown is too well known to need a description. Those who knew him twenty years ago will endorse the portrait, when I say that he was one of the finest looking men in Ohio. This quartet started a grand scheme of finance in 1832. It was their scheme to swindle the world. They discounted an immense amount of bills on the United States Bank, with which they contemplated visiting Europe, and even China, and exchanging bank paper for the products of those countries. They were arrested, however, in New Orleans, where Dan Brown died in the calaboose. Taylor was acquitted, and became a vagabond of the earth. James Brown was sent to the penitentiary for ten years. Ashley died in the Ohio penitentiary."

Summit county was erected by act of the legislature passed February 6, 1840. Section five of the act provided that the courts of common pleas and supreme court of the new county "shall be holden in some convenient house in the town of Akron until the permanent seat of justice for said county shall be established." The new county was attached to the third circuit, and the time for the holding of the first term of the court of common pleas was fixed for the second day of July, 1840. Van R. Humphrey became first president judge of the court and George Kirkum became prosecuting attorney.

The second and third stories of the building at the southeast corner of Market and Howard sts., then owned by Hiram Payne, and in later years known as the Black Bear Hat Store, were hired as temporary county offices. The commissioners appointed by the general assembly to locate the seat of justice found themselves confronted with a vicious rivalry between North Akron, South Akron and Cuyahoga Falls. After sizing up the arguments of the claimants, they decided in favor of Akron, and preparations for the construction of the court house were initiated by driving the stakes on the ground where the present court house stands.

Elisha N. Sill, of Cuyahoga Falls, became a member of the general assembly in October, 1840, and he succeeded in getting the assembly to review the work of the locating commissioners, with the result that on March 25, 1841, an act was passed appointing a new set of commissioners "To review the seat of justice of Summit county, and to relocate the same if, in their opinion the public interest required it." The reviewing commissioners came upon the ground in the summer of 1841, examined the several localities contending for the honor, and then held a public night session in the Universalist Church on North High st., to hear the claims of the contestants. R. P. Spaulding appeared for Akron and E. N. Sill for Cuyahoga Falls, with no lack of backers for each side. After hearing both sides, the commissioners adjourned to sleep over the matter. Promptly the next morning, to the disappointment of both sides, they proceeded to the new and booming town of Summit, classically known as the "Chuckery," and there, on the first bench of level land they came to, they started to plant the stakes for county buildings in the presence of a large company of indignant spectators. Daniel Upson, of Tallmadge, casually driving by and seeing what was being done, and delivering himself of a disparaging discourse about the site and the

commissioners, so aroused their ire, that they gathered up their locating paraphernalia, and proceeded straight to Cuyahoga Falls, where they planted the stakes for the county buildings on the south side of Broad st. Nevertheless, the commissioners were either not unanimous or not satisfied with what had been done. A majority, and a minority report were filed with the clerk of the court. The county commissioners also intervened and filed objections to the filing. It turned out that the judges of the court were also divided, and equally divided, in opinion, and so the whole business was up in the air. Under these circumstances the various county officers assumed the privilege of deciding each for himself where his office should be kept. Some remained in Akron, while others established themselves at Cuyahoga Falls. At the October election in 1841, the location of the county seat was the burning issue. R. P. Spaulding and Simon Perkins, Jr., got themselves elected to the legislature, and steered through an act under date of March 2, 1842, by which the voters of the county were given the opportunity to express their choice at the next April election, between Cuyahoga Falls and Akron as the seat of justice. Akron carried by a vote of two to one, and thus the matter became a finality.

Hon. Van R. Humphrey of Hudson was the president judge of the third circuit when Summit county came into being. He signed the records of the court to the March term, 1841. After that and to the February term, 1845, Eben Newton was president judge; and he was followed by the great Benjamin F. Wade, who presided until his election to the United States senate in 1851.

Van R. Humphrey was a native of Connecticut. He settled in Hudson in 1821, was admitted to the bar in 1822, was elected justice of the peace in 1824, was elected to the legislature in 1828, and became president judge in 1836.

Benjamin F. Wade was a native of Massachusetts. He came to Ohio in 1821 and was admitted to practice in 1828. He was elected to the United States senate in 1851, and was president of that body during the administration of Andrew Johnson.

In the year 1849 the liquidation of the affairs of the Portage Canal and Manufacturing Company gave rise to several court cases of the first magnitude. Later our court of common pleas was the forum for the foreclosure of the mortgages against the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad (1871); the Atlantic and Great Western Railway (1864); and the Pittsburgh, Akron and Western Railroad (1895). These cases brought to our trial table many of the distinguished lawyers of the country.

Gregory Powers—Born in Stow township 1805; elected to congress 1832; to the Ohio senate in 1838; died 1839.

Hon. Rufus Spaulding—Born in Massachusetts in 1798; admitted to the bar in Connecticut; came to Ohio about 1822; practiced law at Warren, then at Ravenna; in 1840 settled at Akron; he remained only a few years and then removed to Cleveland; became judge of the supreme court of Ohio 1848; elected to Congress 1862, and served six years.

Constant Bryan—Born New York 1809; admitted to the bar 1834; probate judge in 1852; died about 1881.

Harvey Whedon—Born Connecticut 1812; admitted to bar 1838; prosecuting attorney 1852; died 1855.

James S. Carpenter—Born New Hampshire 1805; common pleas judge 1856-1861.

Edward Oviatt—Born in Hudson 1822; admitted to bar 1844; in general practice in Akron for fifty years.

Samuel W. McClure—A native of New Hampshire; born 1812; came to Ohio 1828; began the practice of law in Medina about 1840; practiced a short time in Cuyahoga Falls; in 1865 removed to Akron where he became

the law partner of Hon. Henry McKinley; judge of the court of common pleas 1871; died 1883.

Charles G. Ladd—Native of Vermont; came to Akron 1840; began the practice of law 1848 with General Bierce; was first probate judge of Summit county; died 1852.

William H. Upson—Born in Franklin, Ohio, 1823; began practice of law in Akron 1845; was associated successfully with Sidney Edgerton, C. P. Wolcott, G. Tod Ford and Charles Baird; was the first president of the Summit County Bar Association; appointed judge of the supreme court in 1883; was judge of the circuit court from 1884 to 1890; congress 1868-1873; died 1910.

Hon. David Cartter—Native of New York; admitted to bar 1832; came to Akron 1836; was elected to congress 1848; removed to Cleveland 1853; was a member of the Republican convention of 1860 that nominated Abraham Lincoln; was later appointed by President Lincoln as minister of Bolivia; appointed chief justice of the supreme court of the District of Columbia, which office he held until his death in 1887.

George Bliss—Born in Vermont; admitted to bar 1841; common pleas judge 1851; elected to congress 1852; removed to Wooster 1860; died 1875.

Nathaniel W. Goodhue—Native of Maine; born 1821; came to Ohio 1837; admitted to bar 1847; probate judge 1881; died 1883.

Sidney Edgerton—Born New York 1819; admitted to the bar 1846; elected to congress 1858; 1863 appointed chief justice of Idaho by President Lincoln; 1865 made governor of Montana; later he returned to Akron and practiced law here until his death.

Stephen B. Pitkin—Native of Connecticut; born 1810; settled in Hudson 1827; his father, Caleb Pitkin, was one of the founders of Western Reserve College; began the practice of law in Illinois; returned to Hudson 1852; probate judge of Summit county 1861 to 1869.

Wilbur F. Sanders—Native of New York; came to Akron 1864; admitted to the bar in 1856; a nephew of Governor Edgerton, whom he accompanied to Bannock City, Montana; United States attorney under General Grant; was elected first senator from the state of Montana.

Edward P. Green—Native of Vermont; born 1828; began practice of law at Akron 1853; was judge of the court of common pleas 1883.

George K. Pardee—Born in Wadsworth, Ohio, 1839; served in the Civil War; admitted to practice 1866 at Wadsworth; from 1875 until his death he was engaged in practice in Akron.

Edward W. Stuart—Born in Connecticut 1840; admitted to the bar 1866; first practiced at Kent with S. P. Wolcott; removed to Akron 1870 and was associated with C. P. Humphrey for many years. Probate judge of Summit county.

Jacob A. Kohler—Native of Pennsylvania; born in 1835; admitted to the bar 1859; was associated first with Governor Edgerton, later with R. W. Sadler and Harvey Musser; attorney general of Ohio 1886 to 1888; elected judge of the court of common pleas 1895; died 1916.

Newell D. Tibbals—Born Portage county 1833; began practice of law at Akron 1855; judge of the court of common pleas from 1875 to 1883; died 1912.

Alvin C. Voris—Born Stark county 1827; admitted to bar 1853; served with distinction in Civil War; was brevetted major general; elected common pleas judge 1904.

James M. Poulson—Born Holmes county 1842; admitted to bar 1869; prosecuting attorney 1875. Mr. Poulson is the dean of the Akron bar.

Henry McKinley—Native of Canfield, Mahoning county, Ohio; began practice of law in Cuyahoga Falls 1850; removed to Cleveland 1873; and in 1880 became

judge of the court of common pleas. It is said of him that he was unexcelled in the art of cross-examination.

Ulysses L. Marvin—Native of Summit county; born in Stow 1839; began the practice of law at Akron 1860; served in Civil War; probate judge of the county for six years after 1869; was also judge of the court of common pleas by appointment for a short time; served two terms as judge of the circuit court of appeals. His death occurred May, 1925.

R. W. Sadler—Native of Michigan, began the practice of law in Akron 1878 in association with Hon. J. A. Kohler. He was an able and brilliant trial lawyer.

M. C. Read—Born in Ashtabula county 1823; admitted to bar 1850; geologist of Ohio geological survey and lecturer at Western Reserve College on geology and zoology. Practiced at Hudson.

Charles R. Grant—Native of Connecticut; born 1846. Was dispatch bearer on General Butler's staff during the Civil War; began the practice of law at Akron 1874; became probate judge 1883; judge of circuit court and court of appeals.

Lorenzo B. Waters—Born in Fairfield, Ohio, 1855, began the practice of law in Akron 1879; was mayor of the city from 1883 to 1887.

George G. Allen—Born Medina county 1855; admitted to bar 1876; for many years actively engaged in practice; died 1924.

Charles S. Cobbs—Born near Alliance, Ohio, 1853; began the practice of law at Akron 1879 and until his death was connected with the firm of Oviatt, Allen and Cobbs; died 1903.

Henry C. Sanford—Born Portland, Maine, 1833; was a locomotive engineer and fireman prior to engaging in the practice of law; practiced in Akron many years after 1870.

George M. Wright—Born in Tallmadge 1847; admit-

ted to bar 1873; in 1882 was assistant geologist in United States Geological Survey; served with distinction as an officer in the Spanish-American War; died 1923.

Edwin F. Voris—Born 1855; son of Alvin C. Voris; admitted to bar 1877; died 1923.

Frank M. Atterholt—Born 1848 in New Lisbon, Ohio; admitted to the bar 1880; associated with Judge Marvin in practice.

Dayton A. Doyle—Born at Akron 1856; began the practice of law 1880; became city solicitor 1885; afterwards judge of the court of common pleas, holding the office until his death in 1920.

Reuben M. Wanamaker—Born in Mahoning county; admitted to bar 1883; elected common pleas judge 1906; later judge of supreme court of Ohio; died 1924.

Samuel G. Rogers—Born in Akron 1865; admitted to bar 1887; elected common pleas judge; removed to Cleveland; died 1920; was a very brilliant trial lawyer.

Arthur J. Rowley—Born at Cuyahoga Falls 1868; admitted to bar in 1892; city solicitor 1895; died 1915.

William T. Vaughan—Born in Coventry 1870; admitted to bar 1894; died 1917.

The following lists contain the names and terms of service of the several judges of the Common Pleas and Probate Courts. Only the names of resident judges appear after the year 1851, the date of the adoption of the new constitution.

A. UNDER CONSTITUTION OF 1801, PRESIDENT JUDGES—Humphrey, Van. R. (Hudson) 1840-1844; Newton, Eben (Canfield) 1844-1846; Wade, Benjamin F. (Jefferson, Wayne Co.) 1846-1851; Bliss, George (Akron) 1851-1852.

B. UNDER CONSTITUTION OF 1851, COMMON PLEAS JUDGES—Carpenter, James S. (Akron) 1856-1861; McClure, Samuel W. (Akron) 1870-1875; Tibbals, Newell D. (Akron) 1875-1883;

Marvin, Ulysses L. (Akron) 1883, May to October; Green, Edwin P. (Akron) 1883-1891; Voris, Alvin C. (Akron) 1891-1896; Kohler, Jacob A. 1896-1906; Wanamaker, Reuben M. 1907-1912; Doyle, Dayton A. 1907-1912; Rogers, Samuel G. 1913; Ahern, William J. 1913-1923; Fritch, E. D. 1914-1925; Benner, Charles C. 1918-1919; Treash, Philip B. 1919-1921; Spicer, Howard S. 1919-1925; Kenfield, Scott D. 1921-1925; Pardee, Lionel S. 1923-1925; Edward H. Boylan 1921-1925.

C. PROBATE JUDGES—Ladd, Chas. 1851-1852; Hammond, Roland 1852 (August to October); Bryan, Constant 1852-1853; Humphrey, Noah M. 1854-1860; Dodge, William M. 1860-1861; Lewis, Ashel 1861 (July to October); Pitkin, Stephen H. 1861-1869; Marvin, Ulysses L. 1869-1875; Williamson, Samuel C. 1875-1881; Goodhue, Nathaniel W. 1881-1883; Grant, Charles R. 1883-1891; Stuart, Edwin W. 1891-1896; Anderson, George M. 1896-1902; Pardee, William E. 1902-1909; Lytle, Ora E. 1909-1917; Slusser, Lewis D. 1917-1925.

The present Court of Appeals was established in the year 1915. Since that time the resident judges have been:

Marvin, Ulysses L.; Grant, Charles R. 1915-1920; Treash, Philip B. 1921; Pardee, William E. 1921-1925.

Akron in State and Nation

By Hugh Allen

ANY inquiry into the question of what contributions Akron has made to leadership in state and nation brings out rather forcefully the fact that the genius of our people has been somewhat more conspicuous in industrial lines than in the field of politics or cultural things.

Many communities can boast one or two men whose vision and dynamic energy have built up industrial organizations of nation-wide scope. Akron has produced a dozen such men; men with the spirit of the entrepreneur, the doer; men who started with an ideal and built an industrial empire: Ferdinand Schumacher, Lewis Miller, J. F. Seiberling, George W. Crouse, David E. Hill, Paul E. Werner, O. C. Barber, John R. Buchtel, Dr. Goodrich, Col. Perkins, Col. Conger.

Again there are many men whom Akron reveres because they were builders of a community, and builders as well of community ideals, whose accomplishments and whose spirit have been woven into the fabric that is Akron.

But the city is not devoid of men who have played a part in affairs beyond the city borders. Wm. McKinley once represented this district in congress and James A. Garfield in the Ohio senate, Russell A. Alger practiced law here before going to Michigan where he became a lumber king, governor, senator and secretary of war during the war with Spain.

Wm. F. Sanders, nephew of Sidney Edgerton with whom he studied law and accompanied to Montana, where his fearless and vigorous action as United States Attorney broke up a reign of lawlessness and

terror, was elected as Montana's first United States Senator. Passing these men with merely a reference since their lives touched Akron only casually, we still have many men left of national calibre.

There is Edgerton himself, a distinguished lawyer, prosecutor, chief justice of Ohio, member of Congress for two terms, named by President Lincoln as Chief Justice of Idaho, taking his family across the country in a covered wagon, returning in 1864 on horseback and stage coach to Washington to present successfully Montana's claim for statehood, acting as her territorial governor in the interim and, his mission accomplished, returning to Akron to practice his profession until his death. (1819-1883).

Or take Wm. T. Coggeshall, editor and student, state librarian, minister to Ecquador from 1865 until his death there in 1867, who created so friendly an impression that that nation sent his body home in state —followed a little bit later by that of his daughter Jessie, who died of yellow fever while working in a mission there, another sacrifice to the spirit of the white man's burden.

Or Christopher Wolcott, 1820-1863, frail in body but with a lion's spirit, another of Akron's distinguished lawyers of the early days, named by Governor Salmon P. Chase as Attorney General, then twice elected to that post, leader of a vigorous legal battle against application of the fugitive slave law to Ohio, defender of John Brown, and named in 1862 by Edwin M. Stanton, his brother-in-law, as Assistant Secretary of War.

"I know I ought not to ask this from you," Stanton wrote him. "I fear that the arduous duties of the office will kill you, but I don't know where to look for aid, and if I don't have it now I must give up myself."

In the same spirit of patriotism in which men of the north were going to army camps, Christopher Wolcott went to Washington and applied himself with such unsparing vigor and energy to the difficult duties of organizing the war defense of the Union that Stanton's prediction was verified within a year.

By February of 1863 he had to give up, and came home to die, his death taking place in April.

Probably the most widely known figure in Akron's early history of John Brown of Ossawatomie, whose body has now lain mouldering in the grave well on to three-quarters of a century. Akron didn't know John Brown however as a great abolitionist and a leader of the desperate adventure of Harper's Ferry. Brown, farmer, tanner, surveyor, sheep raiser, the father of 28 children, was a big business man here—one who operated on a large scale. He was probably the most expert judge of wool in the world. He was a partner of Col. Simon Perkins in a wool brokerage business with big warehouses in the east and operations extending well over the country and into Europe.

He first came here in 1836, bought a tract of land which is now part of the city of Kent, laid out a big allotment. The panic of 1837 wiped him out but within three years he was under way again, this time in the wool business. In 1846 misfortune again struck him and he failed for upwards of $40,000—a large sum in those days.

Then John Brown retired from business, took up a claim in the Adirondacks to wrest his living from the inhospitable mountain soil and brood over the fact of human slavery and the attempt to fasten this evil on free Kansas—until the time came for him to go into action as a world figure.

Incidentally on his trip from the Adirondacks to Ossawatomie, he stopped in Akron and raised a con-

siderable sum of money and weapons and ammunition for the border warfare he was contemplating.

John Brown's home still stands in Akron at Diagonal road and Maple st., being now occupied by Chas. E. Perkins.

Another Akron man who played the leading role in a similar forlorn hope was the redoubtable Gen. Lucius V. Bierce. Bierce was a lawyer and a brigadier general of the Ohio Militia who joined the so-called Patriot movement in 1836, intended to free Canada from English rule. Many of the men joining that movement came from Akron, and Bierce became commander-in-chief.

His eastern contingent was defeated in a sharp battle near Buffalo, and its leaders hanged or exiled to Tasmania; but Bierce, undismayed, crossed over from Detroit to Windsor and took the town, but his army of some 300 men was attacked by a superior force of British troops and practically wiped out, Bierce and a half a dozen of his followers making their way back to Detroit.

Bierce was indicted in the United States courts for violation of neutrality but public sentiment favored him and the indictment was dropped.

He was later elected mayor of Akron, state senator and was assistant Adjutant General during the Civil War, and after his many exciting adventures came home to die peacefully in his bed, leaving his home at High and Market sts. as a city park, which later became the site of the Public Library.

But the most picturesque and colorful, though not entirely exemplary, character in Akron's whole history is Jim Brown (1800-1867) who, born in the days before telegraph or telephone or fast railroads, became the resourceful and daring head of an organization, nation-wide in scope, for the manufacture and circulation of

counterfeit money. The story of his career is told elsewhere in this volume.

The list of Akron's famous sons should certainly include Edward R. Sill (1841-1887), educator and poet, sometimes called the "Shelley of America" who was born and raised at Cuyahoga Falls in the picturesque ivy-covered old home in which his widow still lives, 40 years after his death. Sill was graduated from Yale at 20, later becoming a divinity student at Harvard, was married in 1867 to his cousin Elizabeth, taught school at Wadsworth and the Falls for a few years, then became professor of English Literature at the University of California, where he remained until his health failed in 1882, when he returned to the old homestead at the Falls.

During all these years he was writing poetry, but it was not until after his death that there was any real appreciation of his rather important position in American literature. Indeed most of his poems were not published in book form until after his death.

Again on the cultural side, stands out the figure of Evan Williams, the poor boy who became one of the world's greatest tenors, known and loved in many lands, perhaps the most widely known man Akron has produced in recent years.

Lucius W. Hitchcock is a successful painter and illustrator in New York.

Frank S. Pixley, Akron newspaper man, wrote "The Prince of Pilsen," "The Burgeormeister" and other famous musical comedies; the late Henry E. Abbey, producer and manager, one of the leading figures in the drama of his day; Hervey Minns, photographer, is better known and appreciated in art centers of Europe than in Akron; Marjorie Barkley McClure is a promising new author whose first book "High Fires" made a most favorable impression; Charles

Nelan, formerly of Akron, became a famous New York cartoonist.

Judge R. M. Wanamaker, member of the State Supreme Court, wrote an excellent life of Lincoln and many articles on jurisprudence; Dr. Geo. P. Atwater and Rev. Lloyd C. Douglas are authors of several readable books on the church; James A. Braden has written successful books for boys; William Barbour Haynes has quite a reputation as a writer on fishing, hunting and outdoor topics; Herman Fetzer is edging toward front rank among newspaper columnists.

Nor were Akron's business leaders merely men of business.

Lewis Miller, an active churchman, worked out a new type of Sunday School plant and organization which had been adopted all over the country, and was the founder of Chautauqua.

John R. Buchtel had little education himself but believed ardently in education, and as managing trustee of Ohio Agricultural School, laid the foundation of what was to become Ohio State University. Not satisfied with this accomplishment he returned to Akron to build the school here which bore his name for many years, giving it an endowment of half a million dollars, a magnificent gift for that period.

The Upson family has served with distinction. Wm. H. Upson (1823-1910), the grandfather—prosecutor, state senator, twice member of Congress, delegate to the second Lincoln convention, member of the state supreme court, trustee of Oberlin, Reserve, and Lake Erie Seminary; Wm. F. Upson, the son, recently consul general to Austria; Ralph H. Upson, grandson, winner of the James Gordon Bennett International Balloon Race in 1913 and two national races since and distinguished aeronautical engineer.

Incidentally Akron is probably the best known city

in America in the lighter-than-air branch of aviation. The Akron balloon pilots have taken part in every national and most of the international races in the last 12 years.

Ward T. Van Orman who with his aide, C. K. Wollam, won the national races in 1924 and 1925, piloting the Goodyear III, has taken part in six national and four international races. Ralph H. Upson, R. A. D. Preston, J. A. Boettner, J. M. Yolton, and W. P. Seiberling are other balloonists who helped to bring fame to Akron as balloon pilots.

Akron is also the center of lighter-than-air construction, having turned out some 800 balloons and upwards of 100 airships or blimps during and after the war.

Akron's contributors to aeronautics should include also P. W. Litchfield, a national figure in aviation and donor of the Litchfield trophy in the national balloon races, John R. Gammeter of Goodrich and Herman T. Kraft of Goodyear, airship and balloon builders; Lt. Harry Mills of Barberton, winner of the 1924 Pulitzer races at Dayton; and two recent comers to Akron, Dr. Karl Arnstein, Zeppelin engineer who has built more than 100 of the huge airships, and Capt. E. A. Lehmann, first officer on the historic trans-Atlantic flight of the ZR-3 (Los Angeles) to America.

In more recent political days we find the figure of Chas. Dick, merchant and lawyer, who became the friend of McKinley, congressman, major general of militia with active service in the Spanish-American War, and United States Senator.

C. L. Knight, Akron publisher, is an author, has been a member of Congress and a candidate for governor. The late David King Paige served in Congress. The first George W. Crouse, a militant political and busi-

ness leader, also served in Congress. John E. Washer won fame in Government Secret Service.

E. C. Shaw and Dr. H. S. MacAyeal, in charge of state institutions, brought new business and humanitarian principles into this important work.

We've had a few men who became famous in fields of sport—Gus Ruhlin and Johnny Griffiths, contenders respectively for the heavyweight and lightweight prize ring championship; George Sisler, a great baseball player, universally respected; Sam Wise, a famous National League ball player in the 80's; Loren May, a national horseshoe champion; Lloyd Lowther, a champion roller skater.

And so in widely varied lines Akron men have played their not unimportant roles in the national life, presenting a true cross-section of a vigorous and versatile America.

Woman's Work

By Jane Bowman and Ada E. (Mrs. J. M.) Allen

A HUNDRED years ago, woman's place was distinctly "in the home" and it was in the home that Akron's pioneer women did their share, and more, to build our city.

Women are mentioned but casually in the history of Akron's beginnings,—a line here. "Mrs. Chas. Brown, nee Miss Henrietta Halsey of North Stonington, Conn., married June 8, 1816, arrived in Akron by ox team the following year, he having traveled the 700 miles on foot." Not a word as to the adventures of the young wife following her venturesome husband to the wilds, or of the labor entailed in starting a new home in unsettled country, and no mention of the woman's part of the farm work, and the rearing of six children. Mr. Brown's achievements are detailed at length but one can only construct in imagination the picture of Mrs. Brown's busy life, and in the success of her husband, get the measure of her contribution to the growth of our city.

And so it goes in all the biographical sketches of the period. The work and honors of the man told in detail, the woman mentioned only incidentally. "Roswell Kent was married to Miss Eliza Hart, daughter of Joseph and Annie (Hotchkiss) Hart, the first settlers in Middlebury (1807) who was born August 6, 1808, being the first white child born within the present limits of Akron." What a history is the life of this woman, child, girl, wife and mother! Deeply interested in church work, she also contributed very largely to the social, political and charitable life of the fast growing community of which she was a

pioneer. She lived beyond eighty years, keenly interested to the end in the growth and progress of Akron, a worthy forbear of the women who today are carrying on her work; and while our scope is broader and results are quicker and surer, she was the builder who laid the corner stone.

Who can measure the influence of these early women in the establishment of our splendid city? Unwritten history is their portion and only in the hearts of their descendants, scores of whom are living in Akron today, and in the growth of civilization, and the broader outlook of our community, is their work inscribed.

The struggles of another pioneer among Akron's earliest women settlers is told briefly by the historian as follows: "In June, 1811, he (Major Miner Spicer) with his family, accompanied by his cousin, Capt. Amos Spicer, and Mr. Paul Williams, started by ox team (from Connecticut), arriving at their destination in September, being the first actual settlers in Portage township, built a small log cabin about 40 rods southeast of the present corner of Spicer and Carroll sts. on land purchased by him in 1810."

The annals of the Spicer family, however, tell a thrilling tale of this trip, and of the early adventures of Mrs. Spicer in the new country. At the time of their start from Groton, the youngest child was only four months old, and quite ill. Mrs. Spicer's neighbors begged her to leave the little girl behind, as there seemed no hope of her recovery, but the mother refused, and packing in a reticule all the homely remedies the town afforded, she took her place in the ox-cart, and with fear and sadness in her heart, started on the long trip. She held the baby during all of the trip, and with what tender care did she ease its little pain-wracked body as the oxen stumbled over the scarcely blazed trail!

The story is told that on one night, as they camped along the lake shore, she buried the baby in the sand for warmth, but the fresh air, and the loving care of the mother triumphed and the baby fully recovered, and, in her girlhood, was one of the belles of the new settlement.

After the building of the log house, the first in Portage township, on a spot which is now First Cabin Court (a stone marks the exact location), their struggles for existence in the new community were marked by many adventures. The Indians were generally friendly, and more than once the family was saved from starvation, by the food they brought in.

One tale is that early one evening, an Indian brave knocked at the cabin door. The carcass of a deer was thrown across his horse and by signs, he made them understand he wanted shelter and food. Mrs. Spicer cooked part of the deer, and the Indian sat at table with the family, the children all eyes and excitement; but the Indian did not seem satisfied with the venison and ate but little. He soon rolled himself in his blanket, and lay down on the hearth before the fire. The children slept in the loft, except the youngest whose trundle bed was pulled out at night from beneath the father's and mother's bed in the corner of the cabin.

With strained and anxious eyes, Mr. and Mrs. Spicer watched the blanketed figure before the fire through the night, feigning sleep, and about midnight beheld the Indian rise stealthily, take his long and murderous looking hunting knife from his belt and whet and test it, grunting with satisfaction. Imagine the mother's feelings as she saw him rise and start toward.....Would it be the children above or the baby in the trundle bed? Mr. Spicer's hand was on his gun which he had concealed in the bed but the Indian

stole to the carcass, cut off a generous slice and cooked it over the fire, eating it from his fingers with great relish. He had not liked the white woman's way of cooking his meat, nevertheless, Mrs. Spicer was a wonderful cook, and, though their early fare was necessarily primitive, her children throve and were happy and contented. Dying at the age of fifty, what a history she leaves of work accomplished and what a heritage of courage, strength and character to the modern woman.

Another notable woman of the early days of the settlement, was Mrs. Jesse Allen, Sr., who was Catherine Teithrick, born in Trenton, New Jersey, in 1778, and was a Hollander by descent. Jesse Allen, Sr., wife and seven children arrived in Middlebury, July 4th, 1811, coming by ox-team from Tompkins county, New York, the older boys driving the cattle. Answering his country's call, he served in the War of 1812 under Major Miner Spicer. The mother, thus left with a baby girl of a few months, another of three years, and six boys, the oldest only 14 years of age, faced anxieties, hardships, and dangers, that we of the present day would think impossible.

That she conquered these overwhelming trials with fortitude and bravery, is seen reflected in the character and lives of her seven sons and three daughters, all of whom grew to maturity.

Thus during her long and busy life of 77 years, Mrs. Allen exemplified the spirit and power to achieve of the pioneer women of Akron.

One of the celebrated homes of the early days was the stone mansion in Springfield township erected by the Honorable Charles Sumner and his wife, Clarissa Hart. Many were the gatherings of the women of Middlebury in the well-furnished parlor, and many

the good things cooked in the spacious kitchen for church sociables, Dorcas meetings and such.

This notable house was left by the daughter, Louise Sumner, herself a remarkable woman of her time, to provide a refuge for old people and the income from the sale of some of this land (about eighty acres is still held by the Trustees) goes toward the upkeep of the present Home for the Aged on North Prospect St., one of Akron's most worthy enterprises.

As the little town grew and more and better homes were built and stores of all kinds sprang up where the women could buy many of the things they formerly must make for themselves, there was more leisure for social and religious gatherings and the women played a prominent part in the affairs of the community.

During the Civil War, the work of the Akron women was especially noteworthy. Old and young, they labored faithfully to scrape lint, make bandages and pack supplies for the soldiers and one of the most successful rallies for the relief of soldiers' families was sponsored by these women. Lane's history tells at length of the barrels of food, clothing and wood donated and also the wonderful dinner served by the women to the men who assisted in the work. Seven kinds of cake, eight varieties of pie, six different meats, jellies and relishes ad lib. It would certainly appear that in the culinary field, the Akron woman of that time had no equal and this accomplishment she has handed down to her great-granddaughter as the Akron woman of today, who, notwithstanding her attainments in all the other fields now open to the sex, is still a notable housekeeper.

Soon after the close of the war, the need became apparent for concentrated effort on the part of women to carry on the work they had so valiantly taken up and due largely to the efforts of Mrs. Mary Evans,

who conquered considerable opposition, with the aid of her two sisters, Mrs. Grace Perkins and Mrs. Julia Ford, the Ladies' Cemetery Association was formed to provide for the beautifying of Glendale Cemetery, the immediate object being the hiring of a suitable caretaker and the building of a lodge for his residence. A concert was given to raise funds and this, with other similar entertainments following, netted a sufficient amount to proceed with their plan, and in 1869, the lodge was completed. Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Perkins, however, did not live to see the realization of their dreams. This is one of the oldest organizations of women in Akron and their roster of names includes all the prominent women of each generation.

The concert mentioned in the foregoing paragraph, one of the earliest entertainments wholly planned by women, was under the direction of Miss Ashmun (Mrs. Geo. Baker) who in 1887 organized the Tuesday Afternoon Club, now the Tuesday Musical Club. For the past 38 years, this club of women has not only encouraged music in Akron, brought the best music to Akron in a series of noteworthy concerts each year, but has worked untiringly to make Akron a real musical center.

As interest in music spread among Akron women, there was a corresponding movement toward art and literature and many interesting clubs were formed, most of which are still moving factors in the life of present day Akron women, the New Century Club, the Art and History Club, the Monday Study Club, the Fortnightly Club, the Summit County History Club, the College Club, the Panhellenic Association, the Women's City Club.

As the welfare and care of children is, of course, primarily women's work, it is not surprising that our present "Mary Day Nursery and Children's Hospital"

had its inception in the mind and heart of a woman. As a young girl, Mary Perkins (Mrs. C. B. Raymond), a great-granddaughter of General Simon Perkins, interested a group of her friends in the establishment of a creche. At first it was operated in a small way and the children of women who were employed by the day were cared for by the girls themselves, each serving a certain day. With the growth of the movement, attendants were hired and so successfully was the work carried on that with the aid of the generous gifts of Col. George T. Perkins, one of Akron's most wonderful institutions has resulted.

Welfare work as carried on by the women of Akron cannot adequately be described in the few words allotted to it. A broad insight into humanity, a kindly spirit of true helpfulness, an earnest desire for service, a keen sympathy for suffering, every field is covered by these different organizations of Akron women and the work done and the good accomplished can be measured only in terms of happier, healthier citizens of a better Akron.

Each of these organizations, in its own channel, is an outstanding factor in Akron's philanthropic program; the Y. W. C. A., the Akron Missionary Union, the W. C. T. U., the Schwesterbond Society, the Needlework Guild of America, the Akron Traveler's Aid, the W. B. A., the Catholic Women's Council, the Florence Crittenton Home, the Girl's Bureau, the Girl Scouts, and the Home and School League.

The work done by the Buckley Relief Corps, founded in 1884 as a woman's auxiliary of Buckley Post, G. A. R., in the reconstruction period after the Civil War has its complement only in the glorious work carried on by the women of the Red Cross during and after the World War. The Akron Chapter accomplished some notable results, received signal honors and,

under Mrs. Gertrude Mason Raymond, as Chairman of the Organization Committee for Women's Work, the women of Summit county wrote into history a record of work and service to which all future generations of Akron women may turn with pride.

Through their work in the Woman's Council and the Federation of Women's Clubs, Akron women have always taken an intelligent and active part in civic affairs and through the more recently organized League of Women Voters, this interest has broadened and now covers the whole political field. Even before the State of Ohio granted women the right to vote for members of the School Board, Akron women exerted considerable influence in this direction and as soon as this partial franchise was given them, they did splendid work along educational lines in politics. In 1916, mainly through the efforts of women's organizations, Mrs. A. Ross Read was elected a member of the Board of Education and almost every Board elected since that time has had one or two women members. Women's Democratic and Republican Clubs have flourished in Akron for years and when the Seventeenth Amendment finally gave them the full franchise, the women of Akron more than demonstrated their ability along strictly political lines. The election of Miss Mary Paul as County Recorder in 1924, the first woman in Summit County to hold a similar office, marked an epochal stride in woman's progress in Ohio. Ever since they have been called upon to do so, Akron women have served with distinction on juries, bringing to such duties a clear head, a warm heart and an unprejudiced mind, which has greatly helped in the administration of justice. Mrs. John Smith has the honor of being the first woman to sit on a Summit County Jury. In politics, as in welfare work, Akron women were early in the field and have blazed a broad trail of masterly organization and successful achievement for those to come.

The field of business, too, has opened new vistas of women's work and the Business Women's Club gives professional and business women a wonderful opportunity to co-ordinate their social, civic, philanthropic and business interests.

Recently, the Summit County Historical Society was launched through the efforts of seven Akron women and a splendid start has been made to preserve the annals of our great city, a very important item of which is a complete history of every woman's organization in Akron.

The Cuyahoga Portage Chapter of the D. A. R. is also doing some fine work in the preservation and beautifying of some of Akron's early land marks.

The long-neglected, almost forgotten cemetery on Newton st., where six Revolutionary soldiers and many pioneers of Summit county are buried, is now restored. A six foot iron fence surrounds the small lot, the tomb stones are again standing and a large bowlder with bronze tablet facing the ever-beautiful "Old Glory" shows that on Flag Day, June 14, 1923, Cuyahoga Portage Chapter, D. A. R., rededicated this spot to the memory of those who there are sleeping.

During the hundred years in which Akron has been making history, women have kept even pace with the men in every enterprise and have shown their prowess in each new line of endeavor. They have wrought well and leave to future generations a record of accomplishment which will be hard to equal.

For woman's work is not of hands alone,
But of the heart and soul, she makes her own
That cause for which she strives and gives to it
Her time, her love, her interest, does her bit
Where'er the need is greatest; mother, wife,
Or in the field of business, her's a life
Of service.

Sports and Athletics

By George Myers

IN THE world of sport and athletics we find some of the greatest celebrities written into Akron's history. The grade school boy who said the three famous Akronites were George Sisler, Gus Ruhlin and Hy Henry was not far off. Briefly there has always been a sufficient quantity of sporting blood in Akron to give audience to any figure in sportdom whether he were an expert in golf, tennis, football, baseball or what not. Even the lesser lights in wrestling, boxing and other sports get a hearing here.

The following sketch of early sporting events aims only to touch the high spots and enough is revealed to show that Akron was always upon its toes for the latest and best in all branches of athletics. Many institutions have contributed in making athletic history for Akron.

BASE BALL:—Probably the oldest of team games played by Akronites is base ball. As far back as May 9, 1870, we find recorded in one of Akron's daily papers the following announcement—"A practice game will be played on the new ball grounds this afternoon. Those who are desirous of seeing Akron represented by a respectable ball nine should aid the boys with their attendance."

Again on July 10, 1870, the Beacon Team from the newspaper office took a terrific lacing from the Buckeyes on the Failor grounds, near the chain works, 43 to 8. As the account of the game goes, the Beacons were a sick bunch after the battle.

The Akron Free School Team on June 8, 1872, showed by the score 30 to 12 that they knew a few

more tricks about Base Ball than the Tallmadge Team. The lineup of the two teams was as follows:

Akron	Tallmadge
Kryder, C	Lawrence, C
Woods, P	Upson, 1st
McNaughton, S S	Sperry, P
Allen, 1st	Sutton, 2nd
Holloway, 2nd	Wright, R F
Clark, 3rd	Wright, M
Voris, L F	Tupper, 3rd
Edgerton, M	Carter, L F
Baird, R F	Baldwin, S S

Another game of early date took place on the grounds in the rear of Buchtel College October 5, 1872, between a team from the College and a nine from the city.

Not until 1880-81 do we find Akron taking its rightful place in the diamond game. One of the best teams in the country, represented Akron at this period. And names that have gone down in the base ball hall of fame were to be found in Akron's lineup. Such men as Tony Mullane, the greatest pitcher of his time, Biddy McPhee, premier 2nd baseman, Sam Wise and Kemmler got their start with Akron.

Big League Teams from Cincinnati, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Chicago and Louisville were the class of competition the Akronites thrived on. The complete lineup was as follows: Mansell, R. F.; Swartwood, 1st; Wise, 3rd; Neagle, P.; Green, S. S.; Mullane, P., C. F.; Maskrey, L. F.; McPhee, 2nd; Kemmler, C.; Charles Morton, Manager.

One of the best and longest games of all times was played with Louisville and went 19 innings 2 to 2—Mullane and Kemmler for Akron, Reccuis pitching for Louisville.

High class base ball held sway in Akron until the

fall of 1884 when the league hit the rocks and not until 1887 did organized ball make its appearance.

The Ohio League came into existence with Akron, Zanesville, Steubenville, Kalamazoo, Wheeling, Columbus, Sandusky and Mansfield.

No league game in 1888. Akron wins Ohio League pennant in '89 with a classy team made up of Pike, C.; Nash, C. F.; Motz, 1st; France, S. S.; Brownell, L. F.; Kane, 2nd; Spurney, 3rd; Rettger, R. F.; Cleve, P.

As usual, finances worked havoc with base ball leagues, and even in the old days many organized teams had more trouble at the box office than on the field. Evidently all was not well with the Ohio League as Akron went to the Tri-State in 1889-90 and from then on for a period of ten years no league games were played here.

Industrial Amateur league makes its appearance in 1901 with five clubs—Whitman-Barnes, India Rubbers, Goodrich, Beacon Journals and Imperials. India Rubbers win championship.

City League organized in 1902 with Kirkwoods, Northends, Niagara and Southends. The Eastend A. C. had a fast team but played independent ball bringing in many out-of-town clubs.

It would be impossible in this article to describe all these activities as the field is too great, so a brief skeleton will follow:

1904—Akron finishes fourth in Independent League. Doc (O. G.) Brownell leads Akron in hitting and fielding.
Goodrich beats Republic Rubber 2 to 0.

1905—Akron takes second place in Ohio-Penn. League. Win 66, lose 42—Youngstown first.
Buchtel wins great game from Hiram 4 to 3.

1906—Akron again finishes second in O. and P.
Walter East, Manager. Store League opens—J. Koch Co. drops game to Postoffice 9 to 9.

1907—Akron is nosed out of first place in O. and P. by Youngstown. Four points separate first and second teams.

1908—Many classy amateur teams, Eclipse, Indians, Burkhardts, Lakesides, Wilson Hawkins. Akron wins O. and P. pennant with Brackenridge as manager.

1909—Akron again wins O. and P. race. Grace M. E. wins Church League pennant.
Bill Schwartz manages Akron pennant winners.

1910—O. and P. pennant seems to have got into the habit of landing in Akron. Once again Akron wins with Lee Fohl at the helm.

1911—Akron finishes at top.
Buchtel has winner.

1912—Akron enters Central League and is lucky to keep out of the cellar position. Finishes ninth.

1913—Akron joins Inter-State League which falls by the wayside late in season. Many amateur teams in field. Buchtel makes fine showing in College games.

1914—Y. M. C. A. organizes grammar school league—8 teams.
3 city leagues—Class A—B—C.
Guttridge and Rand wins Class A pennant.
First Church of Christ wins Class B pennant.
Central High wins City High School title.
George Sisler pitches no hit, no run game, beating Akron A. C.
Buchtel wins every game.

1915—Akron joins Buckeye League which strikes snag early in season.
Read-Benzols win Class A title—First Church of Christ, Class B champs.

1916—Goodyear wins Class A pennant—Howe School grade school champs.

1917—Y. M. C. A. organizes two grade school leagues, East and West, and Howe School again wins cup. Grosswaters bring big league clubs to Akron. Goodyear wins city title.

Base ball in the succeeding years to 1925 showed marked development in both quality and number of teams. Organized ball made a comeback in 1920 when Akron entered the International League but lack of support caused it to go on the rocks. In the last few years the General Tires, Goodyear and Firestone have supplied the fans with high class amateur or semi-pro. ball. The Recreation Commission Leagues, School and Church Leagues rate Akron as one of the best sport cities in the state.

Fred Sypher, of Akron, formerly one of the leading sporting writers of Ohio, contributes the following concerning baseball in Akron:

Sam Wise, a native son, began playing baseball in Akron. He was for a decade short stop and third baseman of the Boston National League Club. Later he played with Washington and finally with Buffalo in the old Eastern League. Wise was as famous in his day as was "Home Run" Baker of the Philadelphia Athletics.

Joe Thomas, father of Akron amateur baseball, says Wise was as great in the eighties as Babe Ruth is at this time. Thomas began baseball as water boy for the first team Sam Wise played on—the famous Akrons of 1881-2.

The Akron teams of that time played and nearly

held their own with Captain Anson's Chicago White Stockings, the New York Nationals, Troy and Providence and other great teams of the old National League from which the present National League takes its name and is the successor.

Hon. George W. Crouse was president of the Akron Club on which Sam Wise began his long and noteworthy career, and around Wise the famous Akron team was built. Wise and two of his teammates left Akron to become big league stars; Wise going to Boston, while Biddy McPhee, for 20 years second baseman of the Cincinnati Reds, went from Akron to Cincinnati, and Tony Mullane, famous Baltimore pitcher, left Akron to join the Baltimore Orioles.

Akron's very greatness brought about its downfall. Its great players were lured away and with them went a baseball glory that never was to return. Baseball history records that Akron had the greatest independent club ever organized. Big Sam Wise was baseball's first wonder shortstop. Hans Wagner, famous for two decades with the Louisville and Pittsburgh teams was, as a youngster, hailed a second Sam Wise. Physically Wise was one of the great athletes of baseball history. He stood over six feet and weighed more than 200 pounds without an ounce of overweight. His great body was supported by the thin legs of a fast man and he had speed. He was a slugger. His Akron relatives have a silver bat, the gift of Boston fans for his batting feats. Wise closed his baseball career in his home city as an umpire, first for local independent clubs of the early nineteen hundreds and later in the Ohio and Pennsylvania League.

Wise lived his last years in Akron. His last illness was in 1910. Rev. Billy Sunday, the evangelist, was holding a religious campaign in Youngstown. They had been friends in the National League, Sunday

playing the outfield for Anson's famous White Stockings. Sunday heard of Wise's illness and called him on the telephone to pray for him. Sunday, a few days later, sent Sam Wise's family a magnificent floral wreath.

Another slugger from Akron was Frank Motz, "King" Motz they called him, for Motz for years was the home run king of the Indianapolis team of the American Association. Motz was a first baseman. Later he played with Cincinnati in the National League and with Connie Mack's Athletics and the Chicago White Sox in the American League. A twisted knee cut short Motz's climb to greatness. The injury kept him in the American Association when, had he had full use of his legs he would have been one of the great first basemen. Motz lives in Akron.

Akron in the late eighties and early nineties was in the Interstate League of Ohio and Pennsylvania cities. The Interstate League was a heavy financial loser and was abandoned. Charles Hazen, third baseman of the Akron Interstate team, lives in Akron.

In 1905 the Ohio and Pennsylvania League was formed. The league continued for seven years with Akron always a member. Frank Motz was the first Akron manager. The first ball park was on East Exchange st. near Arlington st. Walter East, now an Akron attorney, succeeded Motz. Next Jack Brackenridge was manager, then Bill Schwartz, an Akron baseball immortal. Lee Fohl was the manager of the pennant winners in 1910 and 1911.

Akron won the pennant in 1908, 1909, 1910 and 1911. Youngstown was Akron's great rival. To the old time fans their battles are memorable ones. Marty Hogan is the best remembered Youngstown manager. He was a scrappy Irish player.

Good baseball men will tell you the old O. and P.

League was one of the greatest minor leagues. Lee Fohl, manager of the Boston Red Sox and manager of the Cleveland Indians and St. Louis Browns, is a former Akron catcher and manager.

Joe Thomas, chairman of the Akron Recreation Commission, deserves a place in a history of Akron sports. Thomas became interested in amateur baseball and other sports 35 years ago and has since served in one and another capacity as a promoter and worker. Thomas for 25 years was president of the Akron Amateur Association, the governing body of local amateur baseball and basketball. He originated Twilight league baseball.

George Sisler, first baseman and manager of the St. Louis American League Club, is the greatest baseball player in Akron's history.

Sam Wise, a hero of the eighties and early nineties, is second greatest.

George Sisler's biography should be brief. He still is making history; he is now at the top of a glorious baseball career. Competent baseball men say he is the greatest player. In 1922 he was the champion batsman of the American League and he is today the greatest first baseman. Sisler was born in Manchester, 12 miles southwest of Akron. He attended Central High school 1907-1911 and was the greatest pitcher Central ever had.

FOOTBALL:—

1890—Football joined the list of sports played by Akronites in the early 90's. One of the earliest accounts tells of a game being played by two teams from Buchtel College, Freshmen and Upper Classmen, the latter winning 30 to 8.

1891—The first Inter-Collegiate games were started in 1891 when Buchtel College played Reserve and lost 22 to 6. Kenyon also won from Buch-

tel 42-0. Akron's best game was against O. S. U., whom they held to one touchdown 6 to 0.

1892—First coach for Buchtel. Frank Cook from the Cleveland Athletic Club spent several nights a week instructing the college team in the finer points of the game. Immediate improvement shown. Wins were registered over Dennison, Hiram and Akron Athletic Club.
Central High School organizes football team, plays Buchtel Freshmen, game stopped owing to condition of grounds. W. O. Rutherford, Wm. Evans, George Hunsicker, Harry Miller played a prominent part in first games.

1893—J. W. Heisman assumes job of coaching Buchtel teams. Heisman is first fulltime paid coach at the Hilltop school.

1894-6—Southend A. C.—Northend A. C.—Kirkwood A. C. have teams in the field.

1897-8—Akron Football team has great season winning every game. Baldwin-Wallace only team to score on Akron eleven. Lineup: Rockwell, L. E.; Pell, L. T.; Kauth, L. G.; Eves, C.; Crankshaw, R. G.; Conrad, R. T.; Evans, R. E.; Price, quarter; Firestone, F.; Carter, R. H.; St. John, L. H.; Barnhart, L. H.

1899—Buchtel beats Kirkwoods Thanksgiving Day 21 to 0. Northends lose to Shelby 6 to 5.

1900—Kenyon beats Buchtel 11 to 6. Planets beat Barberton Y. M. C. A. Kirkwoods 12, Southend 0.

1901—Southends spoil Planets championship aspirations 6 to 0 (Thanksgiving Day). Eastend Blues 17, Stars 0.

1902—Eastend A. C. carry off state professional championship beating Canton on Thanksgiving Day

17 to 6. Best team to represent Akron up to this time. Eastend Tigers 6, Planets 0.

1903—Akron High makes fine record winning 4, lose 1 and tie 1, with Canton, 11 to 11.
The big Thanksgiving Day game goes to Eastend A. C. 17, Canton 6.
Great rivalry exists between Eastend A. C., Southend A. C. and Northend A. C.
Massillon Tigers defeat Eastend A. C. 12 to 0 in which Laub, Bedur, Stephens and McBurney star for Akron. Northends defeat Eastend Blues 5-0.

Fred Sypher writes for this section that in the late nineties Attorney Frank J. Rockwell was an Akron star. Rockwell also was a star at old Buchtel College. In 1902 the East Akron Athletic Club put a representative team in the field and twice won the state championship. William "Billy" Stephens, superintendent of Goodyear, was a halfback on those teams and a good one.

In 1904 the most memorable professional game of any Akron team was played at Massillon with the famous Massillon Tigers. Akron's coach, captain and right tackle was William J. Laub, a later city manager and mayor. Laub was just out of Western Reserve university where for two years he had won the honor of all Ohio tackle. Massillon defeated Akron 6 to 5, but the victory was considered in Massillon to be a hollow one. Each team scored a touchdown, Massillon in the first half and Akron in the second. But Massillon rooters interfered with Akron's try at kicking goal and the ball went wide. The Massillon eleven was on the run and Massillon fans knew it. There remained 14 minutes of playing time. The Massillon rooters would not get off the field and the game was not finished.

1904—Akron Pros drop hard game to Massillon 6 to 5.
Erie High licks Akron High 43 to 7.
Akron High beats Canton 5 to 4.

1905—Akron High develops great team and captures Northern Ohio Championship.

1906—Akron Tigers hold Cleveland's best team, the Franklins, to 0 to 0 tie.

1908—Tigers and Indians fight for city title Thanksgiving Day—tie game 0 to 0—Rayen High, Youngstown, defeats Akron High 30 to 0.

1909—Akron Indians win State Pro title defeating Shelby Blues before 6000 people 12 to 9. Hess scores two touchdowns.
Central High beats Shaw High of Cleveland first time in many years—16 to 2.
Akron Indians win city title beating Eastend Blues 6 to 2. Buchtel defeats Bethany 24 to 0.

1910—Buchtel produces best team in history and has strong claim on state title. Akron Indians lose to Shelby Blues 8 to 5.

1911—Akron Indians again lose to Shelby Blues 6 to 0. "Rowdy" Horne scores only touchdown.
Buchtel 6—Allegheny 0.
Central High 22—Mansfield 0.

1912—Akron Indians are again in the field and make great record but fall before all star team from Elyria 14 to 0.
Akron Y. M. C. A. defeats Westside Y. M. C. A., Cleveland, 13 to 6.
Indians beat Shelby Blues.

1913—Peggy Parrott puts team in field under name of Akron Indians with many stars in lineup such as—Wertz, Kagy, Collins, Frank Nesser, Edwards, Portman and Criss and beat Coleman's Indians 30 to 0 for city title.

Buchtel beats Marietta 23 to 0—Palmer making 90 yd. run for touchdown.
Central High wins state title.

1914—"Bill" Laub organizes first Amateur Football League with 24 teams of all classes. Large crowds witness games. Remark and Beynon capture Class A Championship.
Planets win 130 lbs. title.

1915—West High wins City Championship. City Amateur Football League again organizes and Burkhardts win Class A honors beating Hann Tigers in deciding game 7 to 0. Akron U. beats Kenyon 7 to 0.

1916—Central High defeats West High for City High School Championship 19-6. Burkhardts win County title by defeating Barberton 6 to 0. Akron U. finishes ninth in Ohio Conference.

1917—Jim Thorpe's Canton Bulldogs prove a stumbling block to Akron, Bulldogs winning 14 to 0. Akron U. finishes fourth in Conference. Akron Grosswaters beat Toledo 27 to 7.

The War dampened interest in football in 1918 and part of 1919 but in 1920 we find Akron again basking in the sunshine with the greatest team that has ever represented the Rubber City. Akron's schedule carried them through 14 of the hardest games imaginable with Canton, Massillon, Buffalo, Chicago, Dayton and others and not once was its goal line crossed. Again the championship rested in Akron. Although many good elevens have upheld Akron's colors in the last four years, they have failed in the pinch when it came to winning championships.

West High has sort of monopolized the City Scholastic Title during the past five years having won

in 1920-21—South High in 1922 and West again in 1923-24.

BOXING:—Many bouts of interest were pulled off in Akron—among the earliest of some importance was that of Kid McCoy and George Heathman which McCoy won.

Heathman's battle with Glassman is also worthy of mention, Heathman knocking out Glassman after a hard battle in seven rounds.

Probably one of the most important battles was that between Gus Ruhlin and Steve O'Donnell. Ruhlin's showing gave him a national reputation and started him on his eventful career in which he fought the best in the country including Fitzsimmons, Jeffries, McCoy, Sharkey. Gus was possibly the best press agent Akron ever had. Art Simms, the best lightweight to ever carry Akron's colors, fought several of his greatest fights in Akron. His fight with Billy Watts for the County Championship was a thriller. Art took the count five times in three rounds only to come back and flatten Watts in the third. This fight took place November 26, 1897.

On November 26, 1900, Simms again showed his wares when he licked Johnny Whittaker at the old Southend A. C. in a thrilling battle. Simms K. O.'d Johnny in 17 rounds.

The same year Simms took on Chicago Tommy White, one of the best in the country, and fought him a draw, the bout going 20 rounds. Referee, George Siler.

Simms licked Tim Hoonan of Barberton at the Grand opera house in 8 rounds. Bernie Strapp and Mull Bowser battled at the Casino in 1905 and then the curtain dropped on boxing for several years.

Mull Bowser vs. Al McKnight opened the boxing game at the Grand Opera House. The two Johnnies,

Kilbane and Whittaker, fought shortly after at Music Hall with Kilbane winning a decisive victory.

Again the author is indebted to Fred Sypher for some boxing history as follows:

For ten years during the "golden age" of American pugilism Gus Ruhlin, the Akron Giant, was a mighty figure. He fought a punishing twenty round draw with Jeffries; defeated Tom Sharkey in 11 rounds in London, after Sharkey in an earlier battle had knocked out Ruhlin in a single round. "There were giants in those days"—Jeffries, the greatest champion; Fitzsimmons, the next greatest; Sharkey, Kid McCoy, Kid Carter, Corbett. Every one of the heavyweights of Ruhlin's day would be a first rate contender for Jack Dempsey's heavyweight crown.

From 1897, when Fitzsimmons won the championship by his memorable defeat of Jim Corbett, until 1906, the year of Jeffries' retirement because there was none to challenge his sway, was the "golden age" of the fight game. Jim Corbett, a great champion, gave way to Fitzsimmons, a greater one; Fitzsimmons in turn falling before Jeffries.

During this age of great champions there were nearly a score of near-champions. They fought for the right to meet the champion. Their battles were greater ones than any of the championship battles of recent years. The Akron Giant was one of the near-champions.

Gus Ruhlin gave Akron sports lovers their first great thrill. Akron, like other cities, had had its local champions. They budded and bloomed until the champion of a nearby city was encountered. The only "Akron Giant" began his career the same way. At twenty-four he was recognized as a real pugilist. That was in 1896. The record books of American pugilism carry his career from that time.

The night of July 16, 1897, Ruhlin and Jeffries fought their great 20-round battle in San Francisco. Round by round returns were received in a dozen Akron cafes, each one packed to the doors. Jeffries had been recognized as a coming great. A powerful, agile man—Jeffries had demonstrated as a trainer of Corbett for the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight that he could take the hardest blow and come back for more. Billy Madden was Ruhlin's manager. Madden's first fame was as the manager of John L. Sullivan. Himself a lightweight fighter of great skill, Madden, as manager and trainer of Sullivan, imparted to the mighty John L. all the boxing skill he possessed.

It was believed in Akron, and over the country, that Madden had selected in Jeffries too tough a foe for the Akron Giant. Big as Ruhlin was—in height six feet two inches and weighing 182 pounds—Jeffries was still bigger. He weighed 220. The bout went 20 strong rounds.

Round 20—They mixed it from the bell, one then the other forcing the fighting. Jeffries' ..... was keeping him out of harm's way. Prettier defensive boxing than that of the Akron man has seldom been seen. Jeffries crowded in, his powerful arms swinging. A terrific right swing caught Ruhlin on the jaw and he went down. He was saved by the bell which ended the fight. The draw decision was well received.

Less than two years later Jeffries knocked out Fitzsimmons, at Coney Island, June 9, 1899. Fitzsimmon's end came in the eleventh round. Later Jeffries, now the champion, decisively defeated Ruhlin.

But the Akron Giant was not through. He was to give Bob Fitzsimmons the worst whipping old Bob ever took. The battle went six rounds with Ruhlin winning five of them in decisive fashion and in the lead until a dying blow caught him in the solar plexus.

Fitzsimmons followed with a short right to the jaw and the Akron Giant was stretched out. Fitzsimmons himself collapsed from the terrific beating he had taken.

That night Jim Corbett was Ruhlin's chief second. Corbett never forgave Fitzsimmons for his defeat and loss of the championship. Forgetful of his duty as adviser of Ruhlin, he thought only of a quick defeat for his own conqueror. He sent Ruhlin out in the sixth to land the knockout punch. Fitzsimmons, though badly beaten, still was dangerous. He put everything into the solar plexus punch and with Ruhlin fighting wide open, without thought of protecting himself, the blow found its mark.

Ruhlin's last fight was with Jim McCormick, a good heavyweight, in Colma, California, August 11, 1905. Ruhlin won in 18 rounds.

The Akron Giant saved his money. He made his home in Brooklyn, N. Y., the last few years, dying there suddenly in 1912 at the age of 40 years.

Akron's next greatest pugilist was Art Simms, a featherweight, whose career began even a year before Ruhlin's. Simms was born in 1878 and in 1895 when seventeen, he had begun a march which should have landed him close to the top of the lightweight class.

Seldom if ever has the prize ring had a more versatile or resourceful boxer than was Art Simms. He was ideally built for the 133 pound class. He was five feet, eight and one-half inches in height, with long arms and legs. He could hit with either hand. He fought the best men of his day. Simms' greatest failure was stubbornness. He was started to fame and fortune, possibly to the very top of the 133 pounders, by George Tuchey, a Boston man who handled fighters with a magic hand. Simms quit Tuchey's management just when he had fairly gotten under way.

The greatest fight ever held in Akron was in 1900 between Simms and Tommy White of Chicago. It was Simms' first go with a top notcher. White was wonderfully clever but not a hard hitter. Simms' advisers—he had no manager at that time—selected White because it was felt that the clever Chicagoan would not put over a knockout, so often damaging to the career of a young boxer. The bout was in the old Grand Opera House on North Main st. George Siler was referee. Siler was the greatest referee of his time. He had counted out Corbett at Carson City, Nev., in 1897. "Honest George" he was called. Every important fight had Siler as third man in the ring. Siler's presence as referee was in itself an event.

Art Simms that night was not knocked out; he was not "shown up" by the clever Tommy White. He gave as good as he received and the draw verdict of "Honest George" Siler that night was fair and square. Simms had arrived.

There followed ups and downs. In some fights Simms was wonderful; again he was mediocre. By himself he went to England and returned home without a single appearance in the ring.

Simms once told me his star began to set following a four round defeat by Battling Nelson, the featherweight champion, in Milwaukee in 1903. "I never recovered from the body punches Nelson inflicted," said Simms.

Simms died, still a young man, only a few years ago.

Bernie Strapp, the well known Akron impressario, once tried his hand as a welterweight. Strapp for years has been and is a great trainer, but the skill he could teach he did not himself possess. He was knocked out in his first and only attempt to really climb to boxing fame. Mull Bowser, a Pittsburgh

fighter, did the trick. That was 20 years ago. The battle was at Lakeside park.

Johnny Griffiths, the Akron Flash.—Art Simms and Bernie Strapp brought out Griffiths sixteen years ago. He was clever; the title "Akron Flash" was deserved. Griffiths was a near great lightweight. His career gave Akron a distinct era of boxing.

Bob Martin, a heavyweight and the champion of the American Expeditionary Forces, also made Akron a great boxing center for a couple of years. Martin's promising career was cut short by an automobile accident. He is back home again, in West Virginia, from where he first came to Akron.

1910-11—Tommy Kilbane and Jack White bout followed shortly after the Johnny Kilbane-Whittaker fight, and was filled with action although it ended a draw.

Ray Bronson vs. Paul Kochler, Johnny Kilbane vs. Patsy Brannigan, Koehler vs. Brock, Buck Crouse vs. Paddy Lavin, all proved interesting to the fans and drew big.

1912-13—The real interest in the boxing game in Akron really started with the appearance and rapid rise of Johnny Griffiths. Grif started in as a bantam but grew rapidly into the lightweight division where he did his best work. One of Grif's early appearances was with Clyde Le Master which Johnny won in 8 rounds. Cal Delaney, Jack White and Pal Moore all dropped decisions to Grif.

1914-15—Getting back to Griffiths we find him giving Willie Jones a lacing in 5 rounds K. O., and then taking on Freddie Welsh, lightweight champion of the world, in one of the best fights of his career winning newspaper decision in 12

rounds. Johnny forced the fighting throughout.

Milbourne Saylor and Matt Wells drop decisions to Johnny.

Chick Maglione beat Alvie Miller in slashing 12 round go.

1917—Grif and Ted Lewis fight several times with honors even, Lewis having edge in first battle; Griffiths wins second. Vincent Pakorin shades Chick Maglione.

After the World War boxing in Akron took on an added interest with the appearance of the A. E. F. Army Champion Bob Martin. Martin fought many of his battles in Akron, the most important of which was with Capt. Bob Roper.

BASKET BALL:—Of all of Akron's athletic sports, basket ball seems to be the most popular. Hundreds of teams are organized each season and gymnasium space is at a premium throughout the winter months. Just how many years ago the game was introduced to Akron the writer has been unable to find out. But we do know that both Buchtel College and Akron High were interested as early as 1901.

In 1903, records show that Buchtel scheduled and played Baldwin-Wallace and Case, winning from Baldwin with a healthy score, 34 to 5, and taking a lacing from Case, 26 to 20. The High School beat South and Lincoln Highs of Cleveland. The game took hold from the beginning with many fine teams representing both of the above organizations and also Grace House. In the fall of 1906 the Y. M. C. A. organized the first city league with six teams. From this period on, teams began to spring up like mushrooms. Buchtel College at this time was gathering together one of the best teams in its history—Earl Williams, Charley Jahant, Bob Iredell, Smith, Carnahan and Ray Harp-

ham. Their record was one to be proud of and their greatest success came when they beat Yale on the Buchtel floor, 36 to 30.

The writer has seen basket ball grow from just two or three teams in the city to several hundred. Central High School, Buchtel College, Y. M. C. A. and Grace House were the sum total of all the teams in the city in 1904.

Buchtel College and Y. M. C. A. developed championship teams during the years 1908-11 and the interest stirred up by these two teams did much to make the game popular.

The "Y" developed the league idea to such an extent, that a commercial, Sunday School, Grammar school and Junior circuits were organized with close to forty teams in 1912 which if multiplied by 10 would be a good guess on the total number of teams now in the city. One High School alone had close to fifty class teams and there are four such schools, the grade schools have dozens of teams, add also teams in factory leagues, Church leagues, Y. M. C. A. leagues and Akron Recreation Commission leagues and there is still a number of teams that are not affiliated with any of the above mentioned. That's your picture of basket ball in Akron and its rapid growth. The Highs—Central, West, North, East and South, furnish some of the greatest attractions of the season, especially the city championship series. In the last ten years Central has walked off with at least seven city titles, in 1915-16 tied with West, 1917-18-19-20-21-22-23, South winning in 1924. The Firestone team has monopolized the Industrial titles the greater part of the time in the last four or five years with Goodyear running close behind. The best team that ever tossed a ball on an Akron floor was the New York Celts who played at the Akron Armory, February 22, 1923.

TRACK AND FIELD SPORTS:—Sports coming under the heading of track and field are without a doubt the oldest of Akron's athletic activities. I make this assertion not from the records available because they are few in number but because hundreds of years before base ball and other activities were thought of, running, jumping and throwing were the favorite pastime of the athlete. Therefore, I suspect that many events of this nature were held on holidays and at picnics of which no mention is made in the daily papers.

One of the earliest events of importance was the Championship 5 mile walking match between John Sharp of Akron and Frank Meyers of Canton which was held at Peterson's Rink on West Market st., May 6th, 1884. Sharp won easily and as the account of the race reads, outsmarted his rival at all times. One of the field events was a tug-of-war between a team from the Gymnasium Club, captained by Charlie Seiberling, and a team from the Alert Boat Club. Seiberling's team won without much trouble. Another meet of importance back in the 80's was held at a field located at South and High sts., under the auspices of the Vesper A. C. John Sharp, J. Asa Palmer, Bill Kasch, Pat McCourt, Al Townson, Tom Conway, John Parker, Frank Palmer and others took part in this event. Professional running races were not uncommon in the old days and we could hardly pass this subject without mentioning two Akron men, Chester Weyrick and "Skates" Brehm, sprinters of no mean ability back in the 80's.

The gymnasium club held a number of indoor meets, the results of one of these meets are as follows:

High Jump—H. Niehns, 4 ft. 7 in.

High Dive—H. Niehns, 5 ft. 5 in.

Running Broad Jump—Chas. Akers, 14 ft. 2 in.

Standing High Jump—Fred Harpham, 4 ft. 3 in.

Buchtel College and Central High School conducted many athletic events of importance with out-of-town schools in the 90's. The records of one of Central High's earliest meets should interest present day athletes—1 mile run won by Meade Chamberlain, 6 min. 50 sec.

Pole vault won by Harvey Slusser, 7 ft. 2 in.

Running high jump, Arthur Cass, 4 ft. 7 in.

The Southend Athletic Club held a meet in 1899 at Silver Lake which brought out a large field of entries.

One-half mile swim—Vieweger beat Abe Williams, time 13½ minutes.

One hundred yard dash—W. Parrott 1st, Tom McShaffrey 2nd, time 11 seconds.

50 yard hurdle—Parrott 1st, Ralph Chamberlain 2nd.

Standing Broad Jump—O. Slusser, 1st.

Running Broad Jump—A. D. Moss 1st.

On June 5, 1903, Buchtel held a meet which was won by Albert Brown with the score of 25 points, Paine 20, Parshall 19, Chapman 11, Harpham 9.

In 1908 the Y. M. C. A. became a factor in promoting athletics in Akron and its meets have developed some of the best athletes known to the city.

In 1910 the "Y" promoted the first grammar school track meet and also a number of events for churches. About 1917 Mayor I. S. Myers sensing the need for better supervision of city-wide athletic activities appointed the Recreation Commission which did excellent work in developing city-wide sports.

Interest in athletics continued to grow and in 1918 rubber industries—Firestone, Goodrich and Goodyear—held their first Triangular meet which brought together some of the best runners in the country, the

most prominent of whom was Joie Ray, known the world over. The success of these meets was so pronounced that an organization known as the American Industrial Athletic Association was organized in July, 1919, and grew rapidly to many of the large cities of the country. One of the largest indoor athletic meets ever held in Akron was conducted at the Goodyear Gymnasium about 1920. Athletes from many of the largest industries of the country participated. The depression following the war proved disastrous and the A. A. I. A. passed out of existence.

The High Schools have conducted some of the finest meets in the city during the years 1915 to '25 with the championships being won as follows: 1915-16, Central High; 1917, West High; 1918, Central; 1919, West; 1920, Central; 1921, West; 1922, South; 1923, and 1924, West.

TENNIS:—Tennis has always had many enthusiastic followers in Akron. As early as 1889 we find published in one of the local papers an account of a tournament between teams representing Akron and Columbus, O. On September 9th, Mr. Smithers of Akron beat Mr. Patton of Columbus, 6-5; 6-3; Miss Alice Work, Akron beat Miss Julia McGregor, Columbus, 6-5, 4-6, 7-5; Mr. Raymond, Akron, beat Mr. Comstock, Columbus, 6-2; 6-2; Miss Work took two straight sets from Miss Hughes, Columbus, 6-1; 6-4. Three hundred people witnessed the games.

Tennis was always popular at Buchtel and on June 10-11, 1892, an Inter-Collegiate Tournament was held in Akron with teams from Dennison, Kenyon, Reserve and Ohio State University. J. W. Eddy and Howard Thompson represented Buchtel. In 1902 a Summit county championship tournament was held and was won by Earl Williams who defeated Chipman in the finals in straight sets 6-4; 6-1; 6-1.

RIFLE AND TRAP SHOOTING:—The Akron Gun Club has a long and interesting history dating back in the 70's, when it was organized, and holding weekly shoots for its members and lively competition with similar clubs from the surrounding cities and especially with the Cleveland Gun Club. One of the early accounts of its meets (1885) was that of a 100 yd. shoot, best possible score obtainable 25 points—results, Captain Steele, 25; Edward Terras, 25; Ira Morrison, 24; Charles Chapman, 24; Charles Seiberling, 21. Many others took part.

Another shoot of importance was conducted in 1889 by the Akron City Guards, Company B. The shoot was to qualify for the title of sharpshooter and marksman—Range 200 and 300 yards. The best scores were those of Geo. Dunn who scored 22 out of a possible 25 at 200 yards and Sgt. Church who scored 22 at 300 yards. Those who scored 18 or better for sharpshooter's title were George Dunn, Sgt. Church, Harry Chisnell, Fred Corbin, Herman O. Feederle, Harry Dodge, Ira Morrison, Fred Bryan, Emil Gammeter and Frank Church.

Shoots of a similar nature have been carried on for years and up to the present we find the Akron Club just as active as ever.

The Akron University has several teams, one of which is composed of young ladies who have already carried off several prizes.

GOLF:—Not until recent years has golf enjoyed the popularity it deserves. The reason is doubtless apparent to all; namely, cost. The first club in Akron, organized in the late nineties, was the Portage Golf Club. The course was on Diagonal road south of Maple st., and west of Perkins Park. The club house was the remodeled John Brown house. Later the Portage Country Club moved to North Portage Path, its present home which is the finest in the city. The Portage Club has been the scene of many big events. In 1898 a team of Cleveland

golfers beat the Akron team made up of Palmer, Masten, Marvin Goodrich, Lohman, Leavett, Johnson and Miller 62 down.

In 1902 Portage beat Youngstown 9 up. Bates, Andrews, Goodrich, Wright, Chipman, Jacobs and Lyman for Akron.

In 1903 Portage enters team in State Tournament at Toledo made up of Bates, Noah, Andrews, C. B. Raymond.

Miss Effie Work wins over Miss Abbie Alden.

In 1904 Glenville Club, Cleveland, defeats Portage.

In 1917 we find a new organization known as the Fairlawn Golf Club coming into existence through the efforts of F. A. Seiberling, I. R. Bailey, J. A. Rishel and others.

Shortly following, the Silver Lake Country Club was organized with George Billow, Edwin W. Brouse, Henry M. Hagelbarger and William R. Lodge sponsoring it.

Rosemont Country Club has fine grounds on Medina road. Last but not least is the Municipal Course donated to the city by J. Ed. Good, being part of J. Edward Good Park.

In the last ten years, we find interest in golf growing by leaps and bounds, until today it is one of the most talked of subjects where men gather.

During the last two years the Fairlawn Club has taken the lead in developing champions in both individual and team competition. In 1923 Ken Wolcott carried off the honor; in 1924 Frank Werner fought his way to the top as the leading golf player of the city, both representing Fairlawn.

WRESTLING:—Akron fans have always had a warm spot in their hearts for the mat game and have had the pleasure of seeing the best wrestlers in the world. Stars of the first magnitude such as Frank Gotch, Joe Stecker, Stan and Valdeck Zhyszko and Edward Lewis—world

champions; Demetreal Gardini, Linow, Cargold, Londos and others have shown in Akron. The best of the middle weights such as Henry Gehring, Bowser and Conley; lightweights, Johnny Billiter and Matty Matsuda. Two wrestlers of national reputation made Akron their home back in the 90's; namely, Harvey Parker and Jimmy Faulkner and we also had another champion in our midst and who still makes Akron his home, Frank Davey. Although weighing only about 125 lbs., Davey met them all, big and little and always gave the crowd a run for their money.

A wrestling match today in Akron would be lacking in color without Davey, who is always the third man in the ring, the referee.

A few of the matches fans will remember: 1905,—Frank Davey threw Hank Walters easily; 1906,—Art Shaffer drew with Edward Conley of Cleveland; Tommy Llewellyn threw Frank Fenton; 1907,—Al Akerman threw Demon Bartle; 1910,—Y. M. C. A. Wrestling Tournament; 1917,—Gardini threw Mort Henderson; Zhyszko and Gardini 2 hours to draw; 1920,—Joe Stecker threw Gardini.

CYCLING:—

1884—Akron sends team to Ohio district meet of American Wheelmen Association, August 19 and 20. A. M. Farrah, Ira Morrison in mile event, Clarence Howland was entered in all events up to 10 miles.

1885-92—Many road races and bike trips to Cleveland, Canton and nearby cities and events at country fairs kept cycling fans busy.

John Weston and Walter Kirn left for Columbus to ride Chicago to Akron bike trip.

1894—Tiptop Cycle Club holds big meet at Fairgrounds. Two hundred men and women on

wheels paraded around track before contests were started. Sad to say most of prizes went to Cleveland, Orrville and out of town riders.

1899—Cycle Carnival Week of January 22—feature 6-day race. Woods 1st, 373 miles 15 laps; Comstock 2nd, 373 miles, 7 laps; Deck 368 miles 15 laps; Blackmore 293. Special mile event, Blackmore 1st. Time 2:01; 2 miles, Ashdown 1st, 4 min. 8 sec.

BOWLING:—Bowling has been a favorite winter sport for many years. In just what year it made its appearance in Akron is hard to tell. Newspaper accounts of bowling matches in the early 90's must be few and far between for not until 1898 do we find reports of games played. During that year we find the Kirkwoods, Colonials, Cereals, Resolutes and Crowns mentioned with some regularity.

A tournament got under way the same year with the following teams entered: Police, St. Johns, Hogan Alleys, Capron and Curtice, Werners and Summits. The Kirkwood guards and Peerless also rolled many matches.

Several years later we find Wm. Barron winning County Bowling Championship from Tillett 1514 pins to 1198.

Inter-city tournaments with Canton were held. Industrial league organized also a Tiptop league.

The State Bowling Tournament was held in Akron in 1905.

E. V. Carter captures first money in Tiptop league.

Four other leagues make their appearance which gives one an idea of the popularity of the game just twenty years ago.

Bowling has made rapid strides in development and today ranks high among the major sports of the

city. Akron is always represented in the City, State and National Bowling Tournaments and seldom fails to break into the winning column.

ROLLER POLO:—For several years, starting about 1905, Roller Polo was the chief winter sport in Akron. Large crowds filled the rink at Bowery and Exchange which proved that the game was a great success.

In 1905-6 Akron won the Inter-State League pennant with such teams as Youngstown, New Castle, Niles, Sharon and Warren. In 1907 Canton won pennant, Akron 2nd.

A City Amateur League was organized with Hamiltons, Bulldogs, Long & Taylors and I. S. Myers; Hamiltons winning. In 1908 the Inter-State League was again organized but soon went on the rocks and polo was never again attempted in this city.

FISH AND GAME:—What better sport can you think of than reeling in a nice big bass or a mess of blue gills or bringing down a big juicy duck, pheasant or rabbit? The Ohio Fish and Game Association has done much toward making such sport possible. Through its efforts the lakes around Akron are annually stocked with the choicest species of fish from its hatcheries—pheasants and quail are shipped into the state and game preserves operated for breeding purposes. The association sees to it that laws are made and enforced so as to conserve our fish and game.

One of the most successful hatcheries in the United States, located on the new reservoir, south of Akron, produces more than a million fingerlings a year for restocking purposes.

This organization had its inception right here in Akron about 1905-6. I. S. Myers, John Pflueger and J. A. Gerhes were its chief backers.

The Hudson Game Farm, instituted and operated by John R. Gammeter, is one of the finest preserves in the middle west.

"BARNYARD GOLF":—Again Akron takes the lead and none other than our old friend George May, Akron City Fireman, captures the National Horse Shoe Pitchers' Association title, right here in the Rubber City with the best men in the country taking part. The development of this excellent sport came about through the efforts of one of our local papers which created the interest by holding city and state tournaments and culminating in a National Tournament which May won.

Horse shoe pitching has continued to grow in popularity and for the last three or four years a national meeting has been held in St. Petersburg, Florida. Since May's success another Akronite has captured the title, namely, Harold Failor.

Geology of Akron and Vicinity

By Walter Frye

THE rocks reveal to us past existence of the earth, its plant and animal life, and are explained by forces still operating. Geology does not consist merely of giving a name to the numerous varieties of rock formation, their occurrence, properties and uses,—it is the key to the library where the documents of the earth's history are preserved.

In keeping with the spirit of the book—Akron's Centennial History—the writer has endeavored to give in a short space the general historical facts concerning the surface and the earth beneath our city with some explanations. Technical terms therefore have been eliminated as far as possible.

Topography.—Before taking up the general geology of Akron, let us consider the surface features or topography of Akron and vicinity. Summit county lies almost in the center of a narrow wedge-shaped divide or escarpment that separates the Allegheny Plateau covering the southern half of the state, from the Erie Plains in the northwestern part of the state. This escarpment is quite bold northeast of our county and as far west as Cleveland rises 600 feet or more in 10 to 12 miles from Lake Erie. It is dissected by numerous narrow valleyed streams, among them our Cuyahoga, which plays an interesting part. Akron occupies a place on the divide of this escarpment. The swamps east and west of our city are very characteristic of a poorly drained divide region. The swamps in earlier times were lakes. Some of them, Copley Swamps, for instance were of considerable size and played an im-

Geological Time Chart

Era	Period	System
Cenozoic	Present	Human
	Pleistocene	Glacial
	Miocene	Absent
	Eocene	Absent
Mesozoic	Cretaceous	Absent
	Jurassic	Absent
	Triassic	Absent
Palaeozoic	Permian	Transition
	Pennsylvanian	Coal
		Clay
	Missippian	Sharon Conglomerate
		Cuyahoga Shale
		Berea Sandstone
		Bedford Shale
	Devonian	Ohio Shale, Cleveland, Chagrin
		Delaware Limestone
		Columbus Limestone
	Silurian	Sylvania Sandstone
		Monroe Limestone
		Niagra Limestone
		Clinton Sandstone
		Medina Shale
	Ordovician	Richmond
		Eden
		Trenton Limestone
		St. Peter Sandstone
Archaean	Cambrian	Huronian
		Original

portant part in history by forming, perhaps, the last stronghold of the Eries before they were conquered and scattered by the Iroquois.

If the reader will consult the Geological time chart at this point, he will better understand the meaning of the various eras, epochs, periods, and systems. This chart is a modified form for convenience.

Archean Era

Let us consider ourselves about seven miles directly beneath Akron. We would then be in the earliest or Archean period of rock systems, which is believed to underlie the whole surface of the earth. None of the later systems does this. Whether this system is a part of the original earth crust or was formed otherwise is an open question. During the latter part of the era, the Huronian system of sedimentary rocks were laid down, varying in thickness up to probably 30,000 or more feet. Some fossils are embedded, and the presence of much iron ore indicated the presence of organic life. Iron is believed to be formed by being precipitated in th presence of plant life. Iron deposits in Michigan and Minnesota belong to the Archean.

Palaeozoic Era

Cambrian Period.—Between the Archean era and the Cambrian times there seems to be a "lost" interval. The lower and middle Cambrian strata are absent under Ohio. The upper however is present although covered. Evidences of plant life are scarce. Animal fossils are plentiful, showing development over the previous period.

Ordovician Period.—This brings us up to approximately 4000 feet from the surface. At about this level the St. Peter sandstone occurs. It is a white and gray sandstone with occasionally some greenish shale

formation. This strata is completely covered in Ohio. The prospectors drill will give us more definite information from here to the surface. A well drilled in Richfield township, Summit county, to a depth of 3600 feet, found the next strata at 3493 feet. This is the Trenton Limestone, the lowest rock that is exposed in the state (Point Pleasant) and famous for its oil and gas production. The strata in the above well, however is only 20 feet thick, while in other sections 500 feet has been reported. Since this is the first limestone encountered it might be well to consider the agents which formed this type of rock. So far as is known limestone may be deposited in one of two ways. The first and most easily identified is that of lime secreting algae, which grows in shallow waters. The second method is that of chemical deposits. The conclusion is then that the Trenton limestone was laid down over an area of quite shallow seas. Here we have folded up in nature's stronghold the history of conditions ages past.

An explanation for the oil and gas is given, that it is formed at ordinary temperatures by decomposition of certain plant and animal life. The oil and gas, as is sometimes said, do not occur in large lakes or rock walled tanks, but are absorbed in the pores of the rock. The gas of course is found usually in close association with the oil, although not necessarily in every case. The remaining part of the system is composed mostly of bluish, green and brown shales with some layers of limestone which is known as the Eden and Richmond formations. Since the first record of insect life is recorded here, the atmospheric conditions must have been suited to air-breathing organisms. In the upper part of this system vertebrates make their first appearance in the form of fish-like organisms. Although their bodies are not preserved,

yet the shape, size, and form as preserved in the ancient rock reveal to us something of the age and environment of their evolution.

Silurian Period.—Medina shale, a thin gray and red layer of rock constitutes the bottom of the Silurian at approximately 3300 feet. Immediately above the Medina lies the Clinton sand formation. At this time the inland sea was extended over a wider area since the Clinton covers much more territory than the Medina. Here is an example of a rapid change of geographic conditions. The Richfield well showed 37 feet of the sand with only a showing of oil and gas and probably represents its approximate thickness here. It is this sand that produces the oil and gas of central Ohio.

Next above the Clinton comes the Niagra group of sand and limestones. This group is the oldest formation in which well developed coral reefs have been found. Since there is no doubt concerning the processes which nature's forces used in building up the Niagra, it leads one to believe that very similar forces lay down the limestone beds in like manner.

The next group differs so widely from the lower strata as to indicate considerable changes at the end of the period. Great lagoons were formed, a dry climate, and a period of quiet, permitting rapid evaporation, leaving the salt in solid form. Geographical changes caused the salty sea water to overflow into these lagoons, replenishing the supply of salt. A period of quiet and lime-forming algae lay down thin beds of limestone, overflow of salt water in the lagoons meant another layer of salt and so on.

At a depth of 2750 feet, wells at Kenmore produce salt derived from this, the Salina series. Among a number of wells at Barberton, the deepest, 3200 feet,

produces salt beginning at the 2800 foot level. It may be interesting to note that the leading salt industry of Ohio extends from Newburg through Kenmore, Barberton, Wadsworth to Rittman in Wayne county. On top of the salt deposit lie 250 feet of Monroe limestone and 25 feet of Sylvania sandstone.

Devonian Period.—Three hundred and fifty feet of Delaware and Columbus limestone with 1700 feet of Bedford and Ohio shale make up the period. The oldest rock to outcrop in Summit county is known as Chagrin shale, the second strata from the top of the Ohio series and can be seen in the Cuyahoga valley in Northfield township. Then comes the Cleveland shale, containing a small quantity of oil and gas, which in earlier times was mistaken for real producing strata.

Missippian Period.—Bedford shale of 37 feet and 45 feet of Berea sandstone outcrop at Peninsula. It is interesting to note that the Berea strata is 20 feet thick at Kenmore and only 10 feet at Barberton. Next above the Berea lies the Cuyahoga shale in which the famous Chuckery race in the Gorge below Cuyahoga Falls was excavated by Dr. Crosby in the forties. Very few fossils have been found here while the Bedford shale contains many.

The Sharon conglomerate, sometimes called Carboniferous conglomerate rests on top of the Cuyahoga shale, which among other places can be seen in Perkins Park, west side of Summit lake and in the Gorge. White quartz pebbles indicate an old beach, the pebbles having been washed ashore and embedded in the sand particles, became cemented together including the pebbles. The pebbles are not native of this region and are believed to have been washed by the streams into the inland sea or lake.

Pennsylvanian Period.—This period is known as

the coal measures. Coal beds represent ancient swamps. Warm, damp climate produced rapid plant growth, which fell into the water, excluding the air until covered by the products of erosion. Clay and coal occur together, the clay beneath the coal forming a base for the coal producing plants to root and nourish. Clay is very finely ground up rock particles deposited by sedimentation. Fire clay, one of the clays used in the manufacture of fire brick and chemical stone ware, was deposited in marsh lands previous to the coal. Most of the clays in Akron are glacial deposits.

Coal is absent in Akron east of Main street and only a very small quantity is found in the hill west of Summit Lake. It is also absent from West Hill and North Hill. Tallmadge, Springfield, Green, Franklin and Coventry townships have paying quantities. Along with the coal measures is associated some iron ore, the probable explanation of which has been touched upon in the Archean Period. Small deposits are found in the vicinity of Brittain and Old Forge.

Nothing has been said up to this point concerning the time consumed in the formation of the different eras, periods, etc., because the evidence at hand did not warrant it. However meager the information may be, some authorities give an estimate of 8000 years for each foot of coal. In addition to coal, time was consumed in laying down the different shales and sandstones of this system. From the best data obtainable, 5,000,000 years has been allotted to the Pennsylvania period alone.

Permian Period.—The Permian is the last of the Palaeozoic era and forms a transition period to the Mesozoic era. All of the Mesozoic era and two-thirds

of the Cenozoic era are lacking in Ohio, leaving the Pleistocene or Glacial period for final disposition.

Cenozoic Era

Pleistocene Period.—Every one knows that the general surface features of Akron and surrounding territory were greatly changed by what is called a glacier. Let the reader allow his imagination to run picturesquely wild while reading of his city and the great ice sheet which was present 20,000 to 60,000 years ago. In the present day glaciers are found only in high mountains and only small in size as compared with glaciers in this period.

Imagine climatic conditions changed so that in place of a few feet of snow each winter hundreds of feet fell and the summer months too cool and short for it to melt. Apply this picture to North Howard Street Hill. It soon would be piled high over houses and tree tops. It is a known fact that snow compresses into ice, and ice melts, even at zero temperatures, when under pressure. Hundreds of feet of snow would provide this pressure. Then one would expect it to melt and would see icy water emerge from its base, forming a cold stream rushing down into the Cuyahoga river. Continuous snow eventually would increase the weight of the drift until movement of the whole mass began. Protruding rock, trees and houses would be pulled loose or broken off and carried slowly down. As time went on the river valley became choked with ice and its accumulated load of debris. Embedded rock in the slow moving glacier glide over stationary rock, perhaps only scratching them, perhaps breaking and pushing them over other projections. Instead of a clear crystal snow and ice we would see a dirty, earth-like, sluggish bulk of material.

Climatic changes begin to appear. Winters are

less severe, melting summer months are longer, the snow crop from winter melts before another arrives. The huge brownish conglomerate mass now slowly disappears in tearing waters rushing toward Lake Erie. The river valley has become dammed with debris. Now we have a floating glacier or iceberg. As it melts the rocks drop to the bottom, the larger rolling to the outside while the center piles up with smaller particles and sand, resembling an inverted cone. The houses and trees float down stream, leaving a door at this turn, a branch on that bend and so on. Ice all gone, sunshine dries the surface of our rock pile and we have a moraine. Howard street's banks have been widened, the river valley interfered with, and last but not least, rock and other objects moved to a new place without any apparent cause or process.

If this picture is well developed, imagine a huge ice sheet moving from Canada, creeping slowly and becoming thicker each year until Goodyear Heights, Coal Hill, Buchtel College, Sherbondy Hill and Portage Path are tiny islands peeping out over a foreign rock-laden ice floe, frozen in winter, melting under its own pressure, advancing each season with Cincinnati as its objective. There is your great glacier.

No previous mention has been made of granite rock because they are not native to this section. Granite rock which we now have are fragments broken off by the glacier from bed rock of northern parts. This rock is quarried in square and rectangular pieces. Our granites are rounded pieces found lying on the surface or embedded in gravel moraines. Occasionally some of the boulders as they are sometimes called show scratches or striae, caused by a hard fragment under enormous weight of ice moving over it. In localities where bed rock is exposed these striae may

be seen, giving a clue as to the direction from which the glacier came, and where it departed.

Another bit of evidence showing whence the ice sheet came is that of plants. Along the banks of the Cuyahoga valley may be found Mountain Maple, Hemlock Spruce, Paper Birch and plants of Arctic habitat, having been carried by the ice to warm climate.

Only in glaciated areas do we find muffin-topped gravel mounds surrounding a small lakelet or swamp, known as a kettle hole, which has no outlet. This is contrary to the natural forces of erosion.

In regions where the facts show old glacial action do we find many lakes. Outside of the supposed glacial area very few lakes are found and these are easily explained by other means. Minnesota gives abundant evidence of a glacial area with its 10,000 lakes. Summit lake, Long, Turkeyfoot, Springfield, Fritch, and Silver lake, White Pond,—in fact all our Ohio natural lakes are the result of rock drift dropped by the ice in irregular heaps with the low undrained portions partially filled with water.

Several additional features are attributed to the glacier, among them is that the Big Cuyahoga river from its junction with the Little Cuyahoga to its source in Geauga county is of post-glacial origin. And that a lake known as Cuyahoga Lake extended from Peninsula to Old Forge, caused by the retreating ice damming the Cuyahoga valley, thus preventing drainage into Lake Erie, and at the same time forcing drainage through the Akron Gap—Prospect st. to West Hill—down past present Summit Lake into the Tuscarawas river.

Another feature believed by some authorities though not attributed to the glacier is that in preglacial times the Tuscarawas river was a tributary to

the Cuyahoga, passing through a gorge running along Manchester road to the present Cuyahoga river.

Here we are on top after a seven mile trip from original earth, through limestone, salt, shale, sandstone, clay, coal and glacial drift.

Who can tell what next?

Akron and National Defense

By Lt. Col. Jesse P. Dice, F A Res.

"We love peace, but not peace at any price. There is a peace more destructive of the manhood of living man, than war is destructive of his body."

SO limited is the space which has been allotted to the subject of this chapter that little more than a very brief summary of events has been attempted. Regretfully, there must be omitted most of the glorious record of the services of Akron's loyal men and women in the cause of National defense; services, self sacrificing and heroic in time of War, and equally patriotic and necessary in time of peace.

Much of the earlier period, especially the Civil War period, has been well covered in various available military and local histories. Consequently, but not because of any idea of relative importance, the later periods, notably, the Spanish-American War period and the World War period, have received more attention.

The persons individually mentioned have been selected regardless of rank and with full knowledge that a complete record of those whose distinguished services are deserving of high commendation, would fill many volumes. Some have been omitted because their records are easily available in other publications, but many more, because of the limits prescribed.

THE WARS

To date there have been 106 national emergencies in which the United States has been compelled to call out the Regular Army, but the following table has reference to six major wars only.

Wars	American Troops Engaged Regulars	Militia & Volunteers	Total
War of the Revolution April 19, 1775 to April 11, 1783	130,711	164,080	309,781
War of 1812 June 18, 1812 to Feb. 17, 1815	85,000	471,622	576,622
War with Mexico April 24, 1846 to July 4, 1848	30,954	73,776	112,230
Civil War (Union Troops) 1861 to 1865			2,772,408
Spanish-American War April 21, 1898 to Dec. 10, 1898			280,564
War with Germany April 6, 1917 to Nov. 11, 1918	527,000	382,000	4,000,000
		3,091,000	

Akron did not come into existence until long after the close of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. Nevertheless, in each of these two wars, some of those who afterwards resided within her present limits, served.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR

The following persons who subsequently lived within the limits of Summit county, served in the Revolutionary War:

George Baird
Hinsdale Bates
Reuben Beach
Nathaniel Bettes
Ariel Bradley
Conrad Boosinger
Thomas Granger
Alexander Griswold
Nathaniel Hardy
Richard Harrington
Joseph Hawkins
Aaron Kinney

Henry Brown
Samuel Brown
Elijah Bryan
Stephen Butler
Titus Chapman
Ephraim Clark
Zelotus Clark
Lambert Clement
Nathaniel Davis
Isaac Dudley
Oliver Dewey
Moore Dimick
Jonathan Draper
Samuel Elliott
John Ellsworth
John Farnam
Daniel Galpin
Joel Gaylord
Jonathan Gaylord
Samuel Gaylord
Gordon Geer
Nathaniel Gillet
John Kuhn
Eleazer Mather
John McMillan
Thomas McNiel
William Neal
Gregory Powers
David Preston
Simeon Prior
Daniel Riley
Isaac Steele
Joel Thayer
Stephen Thompson
Stephen Thompson, Jr.
Simeon Tupper
Henry Van Hyning
John Walker
Elijah Welton
John Weston
Hosea Wilcox, Jr.
Charles Wooden
Capt. John Wright

The following well known geographical names in Summit county are derived from surnames of Revolutionary War soldiers on the list written above: Bates Corner, Bettes' Corners, Griswold's Corners, Powers' Creek, Steele's Corners, Van Hyning Bridge, and Weston Road.

Gregory Powers, here named as a Revolutionary War soldier buried at Darrowville, is reputed to have been an Italian pirate and to have planted all the beautiful shade trees which line both sides of the Hudson Road at Darrowville.

INDIAN WARS

There is no authentic record of any Indian wars, battles, massacres, or other depredations within the terri-

tory embraced within the present limits of Akron, or even of Summit county, and it is very unlikely that there were any. However, some of the Indians who lived within the region at the commencement of the War of 1812 left their villages and fought on the side of the British, and some of the soldiers, residents, then or afterwards, of Summit county, fought in battles in which Indians were engaged.

WAR OF 1812

The following are names of those who served in the War of 1812 and were residents, then or subsequently, in the territory now embraced within Summit county:

George Dunkel
J. C. De LaMatre
Asa Field
William Hardesty
James Mills
John C. Hart
Harvey Spafford
James Vial, Sr.
Josiah Starr
Samuel Flanders
Oscar Harvey
Ambros Roswell
William Burnham
Maj. George Darrow
Henry Wilcox
Gen. Chas. Woodruff
Amos C. Wright
John Wright
David Preston, Jr.
Alpha Wright
Lot Preston
Shubal H. Lowrey
Norman Sackett
Clark Sackett
Reuben Upson
John Preston
Jonathan Blakeslee
Seth Meacham
John Caruthers
Drake Falows
Edmund Strong
Ephram Clark
————Prichard
Zina Post
Joseph G. Bishop
Jonathan Hesser
Henry Wood
James G. Smith
A. Dailey
John Miller
Uriah Chapman
Gideon Hewitt
John Hewitt
Andrew May
William Noland
Joseph D. Baird

John Hall
James Baird
Lee Moore
James Martin
Martin Willis
Josiah Arnold
Hezron Thompson
Peter Buchtel
Capt. Amos Lusk
Almon Norton
Justin Barnes
Titus Chapman
Liberton Dixon
Samuel Fogger
Moses Bradford
Timothy Holcomb
Alexander Hall
Nathaniel D. Hoover
James L. Bradley
Joel Thayer
Chester Cole
John Beaty
John Dixon
Capt. Rial McArthur
Lieut. Charles Powers
Justin E. Frink
Samuel Preston
Joseph Tousley
Asa Gillett

WE WON THE WAR, BUT NOT GLORIOUSLY

In the War of 1812 the United States, at enormous cost, employed a total of 527,654 men. The largest number employed in any one year (1814) was 235,839. The largest number of British soldiers in the United States and Canada in any one year (1814) was 16,500. Previously to the treaty of peace we had only one decisive victory, the battle of the Thames, where the British dispersed and captured were less than 900.

A force of less than 5000 British troops for over two years, waged destructive war in our own territory, successfully resisting our superior forces; 3500 of them were able to capture and burn our Capitol; all resulting from our lack of previous preparedness.

THE MEXICAN WAR

Few soldiers from Summit County served in the Mexican War. In fact, few recruits were sought or obtained in the vicinity.

The following list of Mexican War soldiers, then or subsequently, residing in Summit county, has not been

verified from War Department records, but is believed to be fairly accurate, though not certainly complete.

James Bradley
Frank Brannan
Elias Capron
George Capron
J. B. Creighton
George Dresher
James Martin
Otis Capron
William Mory
George Paige
Charles Parker
Col. Jonas Schoonover
Ezra Tryon
Noah Tryon
Matthias Weaver

THE CIVIL WAR

The response of the people of Akron to President Lincoln's successive calls to the colors and their acquiescence in the drafts which were found to be necessary to win the war, were prompt and enthusiastic. Then as always, the great majority of its population was loyal. At the outbreak of the war, public meetings were held; flags were hung across the principal streets, and exhibited from private dwellings; militia companies were organized and commenced to drill; and the people at large did all that was in their power to help win the war. Men and women devoted most of their time to patriotic service. Open disloyalty was promptly and energetically dealt with.

In those days, as in every period of national peril, there were too many persons who were so unmindful of their paramount duty to their country, and so forgetful of the blessings of liberty and happiness which they were enjoying under its Flag of Freedom, all of which had been won by the sacrifices and blood of their forefathers, that they refused wholehearted support to the government. There were traitorous "copperheads" living under the protection of "Old Glory," but giving aid and comfort to their country's enemies, not loyal enough to lay aside their preconceived notions, nor brave enough

to emigrate to the South and fight openly; there were bounty jumpers and draft evaders, the latter loudly prating about personal liberty and the unconstitutionality of conscription, forgetting that the very existence of a nation depends upon the obligation of military service of its citizens and that all civil rights are held subject to the superior rights of the government to take property, and to compel military service, for its defense; and then, as later, there were those who, like a modern advocate of "Peace at any Price," temporarily joined the Quakers and became conscientious objectors.

No harsh criticism of those honest, though mistaken religious organizations, typified by the Quakers, whose objections to military service do not emanate from intentional disloyalty or cowardice, but is the result of generations of previous religious environment and training, is intended. Usually, the adherents to such religious denominations are more than willing to serve their country in time of war in every capacity other than the direct bearing of arms. However, to all thinking patriotic citizens, to such religious opinion there always will be much preferred the religion of Washington praying in the forest and of the militant Lincoln upon his knees in the White House.

All those who injured the Government by their criticism or attitude, having the effect of undermining the morale of the army and of the people at home, were as dangerous to its success in winning the war, as were its enemies at the front. In war, the morale of the entire people, including those at home as well as those in the field, is of more importance than are the arms and ammunition of the soldiers at the front.

In 1860, the population of Summit county was 27,344. There are no figures available as to the number of men who were furnished for the service by the town of Akron; but from data compiled twenty years after the close

of the war, it has been ascertained that up to that time the number of Civil War soldiers and sailors who had resided in Summit county, including those who enlisted from Summit county and those who had enlisted elsewhere but had moved into Summit county after the close of the war, was 1267. These soldiers and sailors were distributed among many organizations of the army and navy, but most of them were enrolled in the regiments shown in the following table. The battles in which each

Fifty-Fourth Battalion, O. N. G., Starting for Washington, May, 1864. The Sale Stable Beyond the Bridge of the P. and O. Canal is on the Site of the Everett Building.

regiment (excepting one) was engaged are here given. (Not all the lists are official).

19th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Battles: Rich Mountain, Shiloh, Corinth, Stone River, Liberty Gap, Chicamauga, New Hope Church, Mission Ridge, Rocky Face Ridge, Cassville, Pickett's Mills, Kenesaw Mountain, (two battles), Atlanta, Lovejoy Station, Franklin, Nashville (two battles.)

29th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Battles: Winchester, Port Republic, Cedar Mountain, Bull Run (2nd battle), Chancellorsville, Lookout Mountain, Gettysburg, Dug Gap, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, New Hope Church, Dallas, Pine Knob, Peachtree Creek, Averysville.

37th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Battles: Princeton, Wyoming, Fayetteville, Cotton Hill, Vicksburg, Jackson, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain (two battles), Atlanta (three battles), Jonesboro, Bentonville, Fort McAllister.

42nd REGIMENT O. V. I.—Battles: Middle Creek, Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Thompson's Hill, Raymond, Champion Hills, Big Black River, Vicksburg (siege), Vicksburg (first assault), Fort Hindman, Port Gibson, Jackson, Opelousas.

58th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Battles: Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Milliken's Bend, Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Johnston's Landing, Deer Creek, Grand Gulf, Big Black River, Vicksburg, Lake Providence, Fort Morgan.

64th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Battles: Shiloh, Corinth, Stone River, Chicamauga, Chattanooga, Mission Ridge, Rocky Face Ridge, (two battles) Resaca, Adairsville, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Lovejoy Station, Spring Hill, Franklin, Nashville.

67th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Battles: Winchester, Strasburg, Front Royal, Harrison's Landing, Malvern Hill, Franklin, Blackwater, Fort Wagner, (two battles), Chester Station, Bermuda Hundred, Wier Bottom Church, Petersburg, Wier Bottom Church, Deep Bottom Run, Durbytown Road, Petersburg, Appomatox.

84th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Organized at Camp Chase in May and June, 1862, to serve three months.

Stationed at Cumberland, Maryland, and New Creek, West Virginia, mustered out September 20, 1862.

104th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Battles: Covington, Danville, Knoxville, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain, Pine Mountain, Lost Mountain, Atlanta, Utoy Creek, Columbia, Franklin, Nashville, Fort Anderson, Old Town Creek.

105th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Battles: Perrysville, Hoover's Gap, Chicamauga, Chattanooga, Mission Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta.

107th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Battles: Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Hagerstown, Jones' Island, Deveaux Neck (two battles) Enterprise, Sumptersville, Swift Creek.

115th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Served at Cincinnati and Columbus, Ohio, and Marysville, and Covington, Kentucky, and at various points in Tennessee. Two hundred members were captured, paroled and placed on the ill-fated Sultana which exploded. Part of the regiment was engaged in the Battle of the Cedars near Murfreesboro, and part assisted in the pursuit of General Morgan.

120th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Battles: Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Thompson's Hill, Vicksburg, Big Black River, Jackson, Transport, "City Belle" (near Snaggy Point, Red River, La).

125th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Battles: Franklin, Chicamauga, Mission Ridge, Dandridge, Rocky Face Ridge, Resaca, Adairsville, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Big Shanty, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Lovejoy Station, Spring Hill, Franklin, Nashville.

129th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Battles: Cumberland Gap, Clinch River.

161th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Organized at Camp

Cleveland, served 100 days. This regiment included the 54th Bn. O. N. G. from Summit county, and served in the defenses south of Washington.

177th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Served one year. Was engaged at Murfreesboro under General Milroy, December 7, 1864, also at Fort Fisher and Farm Creek, was present at the surrender of General Johnson's Army at Goldsboro.

188th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Was organized in March, 1865. Served in Tennessee until September 21, 1865, when it was mustered out.

196th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Organized at Camp Chase, March 25, 1865, served in the fortifications around the city of Washington, and was mustered out Sept. 11, 1865.

197th REGIMENT O. V. I.—Organized at Camp Chase, January 8 to April 11, 1865. Proceeded to Washington City; performed guard duty and was mustered out on July 31, 1865.

1st REGIMENT O. Lt. A.—Organized at various places including Ravenna and Camp Chase, Ohio, August 6, 1861, to June 4, 1862. Mustered out after three years and its veterans and recruits retained in service. The twelve batteries of this regiment were widely separated in service. Each battery has a distinct history of its own. Space will not permit an enumeration of all of their battles.

5th REGIMENT U. S. COLORED TROOPS—Battles: (Not official list) New Kent C. H., City Point, Fort Darling, Petersburg (3 battles), New Market Heights, Fair Oaks, Sugar Loaf Hill, Federal Point, Wilmington.

6th OHIO INDEPENDENT BATTERY—Battles: Mill Springs, Corinth, Stanford, Lavergne, Murfreesboro, Stone River, Chicamauga, Mission Ridge, Dallas,

Kenesaw, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Franklin, Overton's Hill.

9th OHIO INDEPENDENT BATTERY—Battles: Mill Springs, Elrod Ridge, Cumberland Gap (several engagements), Richmond, Franklin, Triune, Murfreesboro. With General Sherman on Atlanta campaign and "March to the Sea."

25th OHIO INDEPENDENT BATTERY—Battles: Newtonia (two battles) Maysville, Kane Hill, Prairie Grove, Van Buren, Little Rock, Brownsville. Various engagements in southern Arkansas. Thirteen battles and skirmishes in all.

2nd OHIO VOLUNTEER CAVALRY—Battles and Skirmishes: Independence, Carthage, Cowskin Prairie, Fort Gibson, Carthage, Newtonia, Cow Hill, Wolf Creek, White River, Prairie Grove, Steubenville (two battles), Monticello (2 battles), Columbia, Knoxville (various engagements), 1200 Mile pursuit of John Morgan. Buffington Island, Loudon Bridge, Henderson Station, Zollicoffer, Blue Springs, Blountsville, Bristol, Cumberland Gap, Morristown, Campaign of the Wilderness, Newtown, Hanover, Ashland, Hanover, Cold Harbor, Russellville, Bean Station, Mossy Creek, Nottaway, Stony Creek, Ream Station, Winchester, Summit Point, Charlestown, two engagements near Harper's Ferry, Berryville, Winchester (several engagements), Front Royal Pike, Luray Valley, (2 engagements) Waynesboro, Bridgewater, Cedar Creek, (near) Kernstown, New Market, Moorefield, Charlotteville. In final campaign with Army of the Potomac. Fought in 97 battles and engagements, in five armies, in thirteen states and a territory.

6th OHIO VOLUNTEER CAVALRY—Battles: Strasburg, Cross Keys, near Fremont, Luray, Cedar Mountain, Passage of the Rappahannock, Second Bull Run, Warrenton, Fredericksburg, Kelly's Ford, On Stoneman's raid, Stevensburg, Aldie, Middleburg, Up-

perville, Engagements with Stuart, Gettysburg, Falling Waters, Culpepper, Rapidan Station, Sulphur Springs, Auburn Mills, Bristoe Station, Mine Run, Richmond (two battles) Yellow Tavern, Owen Church, Cold Harbor, Bottom Bridge, Trevillian Station, Malvern Hill, Weldon R. R., Hutchins' Run, Hatcher's Run, Dinwiddie, Five Forks, Sailor's Creek, Farmville, Appomatox.

As nearly as can be ascertained, 145 Summit county men during the war were killed in battle or died of wounds or of disease contracted in service. Their names follow, but the list is not claimed to be complete.

George Bonesteel
Samuel Brandon
John Carver
James Courtney
Thomas Davis
Joseph B. Deeds
George Denious
Riley Dixon
Jerry Etinger
Lewis H. Harris
Robert Hogue
George D. Harris
Thomas Stanicker
Lucius Tryon
Oscar Jackson
Daniel Lamberson
Elijah K. Pardee
Alvin Perkins
James Pierson
Joseph Pierson
Hiram Ingalls
George W. Richards
Norman Saulsbury
John Shelhorn
Burtis W. Smith
P. W. Stanford
Thomas Stevens
Harvey D. Norton
Lieut. John Eadie
John W. Eadie
Henry F. Eadie
Edward Green
Robert Green
Isadore Hogh
John B. Lyon
Charles A. Downey
George Holden
Deming N. Lowry
William Lyons
Charles E. Moon
John Murphy
F. B. Purrin
James J. Paterson
John Paterson
William Price
George Huber
Christopher Calahan
Joseph Gungrich
Henry S. Hart
Daniel Myers

David McGraw
Thomas Owens
Thomas Evans
F. Stone
Charles Clapp
Marquis Holden
William Wilder
George Gaylor
Ranson Ellsworth
William Jones
Robert Andrews
Nicholas Murry
George Gaylord
Edward R. Hanks
G. W. Hanks
W. Chamberlain
Louis Shroeder
E. Thompson
Henry Crocker
George E. Pease
Edward Raney
John Smith
Robert Wilkins
Alvin J. Rose
Thomas Pacey
Perkins W. Stanford
Nathan G. Rose
Lt. George L. Waterman
George W. Klickner
Charles A. Smith
Warren R. Hall
Hiram C. Hill
John H. Hill
William J. Pierce
John S. Killinger
F. W. Indermela

Seneca Blood
Albert Buchanan
John Condon
J. C. Cook
Gurley G. Crane
George W. Deering
John C. Ely
Arthur K. Goodrich
Robert Gaylord
John Sheldon
J. E. Schnable
Isaac J. Wood
Samuel Wooldridge
Norman Darrow
Alvin W. Niman
Edward Ellis
George C. Monks
John Hichcock
D. E. Murry
Palmer Williamson
Thomas Pacey
Robert Cox
Edward King
William Rubbins
Foster Rubbins
Joseph Draper
Clinton C. Chambers
Charles Stearns
Dryden Ferguson
Edward Bissell
Anderson Oviatt
E. G. Kingston
Charles H. Springer
Warren Wait
J. E. Carter
William Bliss

Samuel Ells	James Dolan
J. F. Smith	Alfred Yerrick
H. S. Bennett	Milo Hunsburger
George Crass	James Johnson
Nathan Doty	Jeremiah Keener
Charles Way	Major Myron T. Wright
Jacob Rusher	John Knox
David Lee	Thomas Bare
Thomas Cody	Edwin H. Hanks
Freeman J. Humes	Charles Weatherbee
John Garrison	Elmore C. Hinkston

The women of the town were not idle. Immediately upon the fall of Fort Sumpter they began preparing for the contest. Various social affairs were organized for raising money, and a Soldiers' Aid Society, affiliated with the Sanitary and Christian Commission, was formed.

The Soldiers' Aid Society of Akron was organized with Mrs. H. S. Abbey, as president, and Mrs. Helen Beebe, now Mrs. Helen Raymond, as secretary and treasurer. At their rooms, they met daily, knitted mittens and socks, packed barrels of cabbage which was made into slaw, cut up and canned many chickens which were sent in from the country, scraped lint from old linen, and prepared many other supplies for the use of the army.

The first meetings of the Society were held in a room above the store on South Howard street where Hibbard's Jewelry store subsequently was located. The second place of meeting was Tappin Hall, over Mr. Storer's "Iron Store," located at the southeast corner of Market and Main streets. The president, Mrs. Abbey, lived where the M. O'Neil store now is situated.

Many of the Summit county men engaged served with great distinction and it is quite difficult to discriminate between them, but it is also impossible within the limits assigned to even mention those deserving. The two sol-

diers most highly honored were Private John C. Matthews and General Alvin C. Voris.

In the assault upon Petersburg, April 2, 1865, two color bearers of the 61st Pennsylvania Infantry having been shot down, Colonel Crosby, its commanding officer, himself, grasped one of the flags and led the regiment to the charge. When he fell, mortally wounded, Private John C. Matthews of Company "A" rushed to the side of one of the fallen color bearers, and holding the flag aloft, greatly aided in restoring order and confidence. For this fine display of quick action and presence of mind, Colonel Orr promoted him to color sergeant. Later, he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. He now is a highly esteemed resident of Akron.

In 1861, the Honorable Alvin C. Voris, then a representative of Summit county in the Ohio General Assembly, and a lawyer, residing in Akron, enlisted as a private in the 29th Regiment O. V. I. Shortly afterwards he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and was placed on recruiting duty. Because of his impetuous gallantry in action, he was soon promoted, by stages, to the rank of Colonel of the 67th Regiment O. V. I. He was several times severely wounded while leading his troops in person, and for bravery, efficiency, and "distinguished services in the field," was promoted, first, to the rank of Brigadier General, in 1864, and then to the rank of Major General in 1865. During all of his subsequent life he suffered from wounds received. To many he is better known as Common Pleas Judge Voris. He continued to reside in Akron until the time of his death, July 28, 1904.

Landsman Alexander Bradley, serving in the United States Navy, was awarded a Congressional Medal of Honor for saving the life of a man, off Cowes, England. He resided in Akron, until March 6, 1924, the date of his death. He was the father of First Lieutenant Jerome J. Bonner, QM-RES.

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

The Battleship Maine was blown up in Havana Harbor on February 15, 1898, by unknown persons; on April 11th, President McKinley presented his famous message to Congress; on April 18th and 19th, the house and senate passed a warlike resolution; on April 21st diplomatic relations were severed; and, on April 22nd, the Cuban Blockade was declared, resulting in a declaration of war by Spain on April 24th.

The United States government, yielding to an overwhelming public opinion, on April 25th, 1898, declared war.

Early in April the two militia units, Company B of the Eighth Reg. Inf., O. N. G. and Battery F of the First Reg. Ohio Light Artillery, began in earnest to prepare themselves for service if called. On April 18th and 19th new recruits were enlisted in Company B, giving it a total enlistment of 91. Members of the Company gave a dancing party following a freeze out drill in which Sgt. Clarence E. Cranz won the gold medal prize.

On April 20, 1898, Capt. H. O. Feederle and Capt. Herman Werner, commanding officers of the militia at Akron, received the first real war orders. These required them to recruit their commands and outlined the procedure to be followed in preparing their commands for service. The number required for the Infantry Company was 75, and for the Battery, 102. The order required a physical examination of all officers and enlisted men and the discharge of all who were unfit, and all enlistment rolls were required to bear the certificate of the medical officer as to the physical condition of the men. The order was issued in pursuance of the proclamation of Governor Bushnell dated April 19, 1898. At that time Campany B had 92 men, 17 in excess of the required number.

Capt. Herman Werner immediately advertised for new

recruits, and, on April 22, 1898, he enlisted 33 men and yet needed 15 more.

On the same day, the Akron Sons of Veterans, following in the footsteps of their fathers, elected Captain George Whitney as Major, and tendered their services as an organization armed and equipped to the governor of the state, and from then on they drilled constantly. To this day many of them regret that their offer was not accepted.

On April 25, 1898, the day war was declared, orders were received for the militiamen to hold themselves in readiness to leave on an hour's notice. The old soldiers were aroused, and Maj. E. F. Taggert, Commander of the G. A. R. issued the following order:

"Attention, Buckley Post!

"When the order comes for the troops to leave Akron, the fire bells will strike 13 as a signal. You are hereby requested to meet at the post rooms, promptly upon hearing the signal for the purpose of escorting them to the trains."

The citizens organized and arranged for a parade and other ceremonies to be held upon the day of the expected departure of the Eighth Ohio Regiment.

On April 26th orders were received from Col. C. V. Hard for the Eighth Regiment to assemble at Akron on the following Tuesday. In the evening, the G. A. R. Quartette visited the Armory and cheered the members of Company B with stirring patriotic songs, and each of the soldiers was presented with a small round pin cushion which had been made by Nellie McLaughlin, a little child residing at 218 Howard st.

Immediately, arrangements were made for quartering the twelve companies of the Eighth Regiment upon their arrival in the city, Companies A, M, H, and C, in the Assembly Hall, I, F, L, and D, in Music Hall, K in the Band Room, B and the Signal and Hospital Troops in B's

Armory, and G and E in the Sons of Veterans' Hall. Each man was provided with two days' rations.

On April 27, 1898, the Eighth assembled in Akron. In the evening, the Field and Staff officers were entertained at Paul E. Werner's home on West Market st.

The following Field and Staff officers resided in Akron: Lt. Col. Charles W. Dick; Major Frederick C. Bryan; Capt. and Adj., Alexander W. Maynes; 2d. Lt. and Bn. Adj., George M. Wright; Regt. Sergt. Major Edward Barber; Bn. Sergt. Major, Daniel W. Brown.

The Regiment, as organized, was the only Regiment in the Ohio National Guard having the required twelve companies.

Orders were received for the Regiment to move to Camp Bushnell, Columbus, April 28, 1898.

THE DEPARTURE

Never was there such a demonstration in the city of Akron. Fully 50,000 people took part. The city was decorated with flags and banners, among them the Akron Club's banner which read "OUR COUNTRY MAY SHE ALWAYS BE RIGHT, WRONG OR RIGHT, OUR COUNTRY." All the schools and shops were closed. The fire bells sounded the signals, and the factory and railroad engine whistles were blown.

The parade formed in front of the City Building and at eight o'clock, moved North on Main st., to Market and thence to Grace Park. The order was as follows: A platoon of Police; Chief Marshall, P. E. Werner; George M. Anderson, B. G. Work and Ed Werner, mounted; the Eighth Regiment Band; Battery F, Herman Werner commanding; Sons of Veterans; Buckley Post headed by the G. A. R. Drum Corps, Capt. A. P. Baldwin commanding; H. G. Griffin, E. A. Hershey, and Asa Whitestone, mounted; the Goodrich Band with various lodges and

orders; and last, Col. H. A. Kasson, heading a large body of citizens.

At Grace Park, those civilians who took part in the farewell ceremony were Mayor W. E. Young, President of the Day, Judge J. A. Kohler and Judge N. D. Tibbals, Speakers, Prof. Glover, the G. A. R. Quartette, and Emil Gammeter, who, in behalf of the business men of Akron, presented Company B with its colors. In answer to repeated requests for speeches, both Col. C. V. Hard, Commanding Officer of the Regiment, and Lt. Col. Charles W. F. Dick, responded. Capt. Feederle, accepting the Company's flag, asked the men how they would guard it. The unanimous response was that they "would die for it."

Attended by the immense crowd, the Regiment went to the station. Twenty-four coaches, two baggage cars, and a Palace Horse Car, in which were sixteen fine regimental horses from this city, composed the two sections which moved out at 9:20 A. M., and 10:30 A. M., respectively.

From Thursday evening, the time of arrival at Camp Bushnell, until Friday evening, no shelter was provided for the men.

On May 13, 1898, the Company then having 81 privates and three officers, Capt. H. O. Feederle, First Lieut. Harry J. Blackburn and Second Lieut. William O. Rutherford, was mustered into the Federal Service by Captain C. M. Rockerfeller of the Ninth Inf. U. S. A. May 18th, the regiment was moved to Camp Alger, Falls Church, Virginia (named for Secretary of War Alger). The provisions for water supply and sanitary arrangements for the 12,000 men encamped there by May 21st were extremely inadequate. On May 28th, President McKinley reviewed the Regiment at Camp Alger and found it to be one of the best equipped in the service.

John Metzler, an enlisted man in the Regular Army,

was the first Akron soldier, and either the first or second American soldier, to reach Cuban soil. Fred G. Haushalter, a member of Company B, who died at Camp Alger on May 28th, was the first Akron soldier to die. His body was brought to Akron by Lieut. Blackburn, Serg. Major Brown, and Private Arthur C. Johnson.

On Wednesday, July 6, 1898, at daylight, the Regiment left Camp Alger for New York. Arriving in New York, it was immediately loaded upon the St. Paul and that night left for Cuba. It was landed at Siboney, Cuba, on July 11th, and moved to Aquadores River on the same day.

The Regiment was placed in the right of our fighting line, and while there it witnessed the bombardment of the City of Santiago by the American fleet.

On July 14th, Gen. Torol asked for a truce, and a conference was arranged and took place under a cottonwood tree one mile in front of our lines. Representing the American Army were Generals Wheeler and Lawton and Captain Miley of Gen. Miles' Staff, and representing the Spaniards were Mr. Robert Mason, British Vice Consul, Col. Fountaine, Chief of Gen. Torol's Staff, and Gen. Escarajao. The Eighth Ohio was the first Regiment to hear the news of the surrender when it occurred. Its wild cheers were quickly spread through the entire American lines; and the news of the surrender as quickly passed along the lines, and was telephoned and telegraphed, until it reached the people at home.

On July 16th, the Regiment moved to a camp on Sevilla Hill.

At nine o'clock on Sunday, July 17th, the American Army took possession of the City of Santiago, and, so far as Company B and the Eighth Regiment were concerned, the fighting was over.

It again moved to a camp near San Juan Hill on August 11th, 1898.

On August 17th, 1898, it embarked on the S. S. Mohawk, and on August 18th sailed for New York, arriving at Montauk Point on August 26, 1898. There it was kept until September 6th, when it entrained for Ohio. With the exception of those who were left behind, sick in various hospitals, it arrived at Akron on September 8, 1898. It was furloughed until November 10, 1898, and mustered out of the United States Service on November 21, 1898.

Capt. Feederle, who had been delayed by sickness, arrived in Akron Tuesday evening, September 20, 1898, and was greeted by a large and enthusiastic crowd. No commanding officer was ever more highly esteemed by his command.

In the meantime, Battery F, which had been left at home, was not idle. Under the strict discipline of its able commander, Capt. Herman Werner, a veteran of many years service in the Regular Army, it received excellent training. He was ably assisted by his two lieutenants, First Lieut. John M. Straub and Second Lieut. J. Percy Colwell. It was called into service, and on June 25, 1898, left for Camp Bushnell, Ohio.

The ceremonies and demonstrations which took place upon the leaving of the Eighth Regiment were almost exactly duplicated. Again the city turned out en masse. The streets and buildings were profusely decorated, and the battery was escorted to Grace Park.

The parade formed at eight o'clock and moved at 8:45. Capt. A. P. Baldwin was marshall of the day. At the head of the procession were the city officials and speakers, and behind them a platoon of policemen under Chief of Police Harrison. Then came the Eighth Regiment Band, whose inspiring music added to the enthusiasm of the crowds. Next the Chief Marshall and his mounted aides. Then came the G. A. R., which acted as an escort for the Battery. The Battery was led by its veteran commander,

and was almost full war strength. Following it were the Sons of Veterans Rifles under Capt. John R. Foster, and, following them, various lodges and civilians.

Despite the threatening weather an enormous crowd had congregated and followed the procession to the park. On the platform were Mayor Young, Paul E. Werner, the City Commissioners, Thomas Brady, president of the City Council, Hon. J. Park Alexander, Capt. George W. Billow, a Civil War veteran, Rev. John Herron, Emil Gammeter, president of the Chamber of Commerce, Charles C. Benner, Mesdames Sarah Battels, C. S. Foltz, and S. A. Chisnell. During the ceremonies at the park, Mayor Young so eloquently addressed the crowd that hundreds of men and women were in tears. A more affecting scene was never witnessed.

Capt. George W. Billow, in behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, presented a beautiful silk flag to the Battery. At the end of his address, turning to Capt. Werner, while the rain fell in torrents, he said: "And now to you, Capt. Werner, we leave the welfare of our boys, and of you and our boys we expect you to protect this, the grandest flag in all the World. May the kind Providence watch over you all and protect you all." Capt. Werner replied: "I have no words to express my feeling. I assure you, however, that we will protect this flag at all times and all places."

From Grace Park the Battery proceeded to the Union Station where, accompanied by the cheers of the large crowd which had congregated, it entrained at 10:10 A. M.

Shortly after arriving at Camp Bushnell, Battery F was converted into an Infantry Company and became Company F of the newly organized Tenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. It was mustered into the service of the United States on July 7, 1898, by the same mustering

officer who had mustered in Company B two months previously.

The Tenth O. V. I. left Camp Bushnell for Camp Meade, Middletown, Pennsylvania, August 18, 1898, where it arrived August 20, 1898. It was moved to Camp McKenzie, Augusta, Georgia, November 12, 1898, arriving there November 14, 1898. On March 23, 1899, it was mustered out of the United States service at Camp McKenzie, Georgia, and immediately departed for Ohio.

On October 14, 1898, Capt. Herman Werner resigned his commission and returned to Akron, Ohio. He was succeeded by his second in command, Capt. John M. Stroub, an officer also efficient and able as a disciplinarian. At the same time Second Lieut. J. Percy Colwell was promoted to First Lieutenant and First Serg. Walter Russell, to Second Lieutenant.

During its term of service, Company F, under the able direction of its officers, was developed into an efficient fighting force and had the reputation of being the best drilled company in the Regiment.

As nearly as can be ascertained, 278 residents of Akron saw service in the Spanish-American War.

All of the troops enrolled suffered severe losses from disease, owing to the lack of preparation and experience. Sanitary arrangements were very poor. For instance, at Camp Meade, Company F was encamped in low ground, having water constantly under its tents; and the only water which it had to drink was obtained from various untested wells in the neighborhood of the Camp, resulting in a severe epidemic of typhoid. Six of its men died in service. Their names are as follows: Acton F. Hawn, Ira Keck, Corporal, Armond F. Gaillard, Alfred Crook, Harvey G. Shaffer, Corporal, Carl Schoenduve, Sergeant.

The conditions in Cuba were equally bad, owing to the same causes. The men of Company B relate that the meat eaten by the soldiers in hot and rainy weather was

hauled to the encampment in the same wagons which hauled the dead. It was dumped on the ground without any protection, where it was quickly covered with swarms of the flies infesting the region. The mortality of Company B also was correspondingly great. The following are the names of those who died in service: Fred Haushalter, Arthur Nelson, Ward A. Wilford, John Roos, Aleck Heller, Daniel Lillick, Charles A. Spade, Edward B. Stroble. Many others contracted diseases, from which they have suffered for many years. There is no stronger argument for the necessity of Preparedness in Time of Peace, including proper training and organization.

With the Rough Riders under Theodore Roosevelt served Charles Goodrich and Theodore Miller, two brilliant young Harvard students, residents of Akron. Theodore Miller, a son of Hon. Lewis Miller, was killed in action bravely fighting in the assault upon San Juan Hill.

PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION

Many Akron citizens served in the Army in the Philippine Islands during the Insurrection. Frank T. Bell, who afterwards became First Lieut. Bell, mentioned hereafter, was severely wounded in action in Mavitas, P. I. on September 17, 1900.

MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES W. F. DICK

Because of efficient service, Charles W. F. Dick rose from the rank of Lieut. Col. to Major General of the Ohio National Guard, and subsequently was suggested, although not appointed, by President Wilson as a proper commanding officer for the Ohio Division in the World War.

After the Spanish-American War, as a member of Congress, first as Representative and afterwards as Senator from Ohio, he obtained the passage of much

legislation in aid of the National Defense. Only three of his military bills are here mentioned.

THE DICK LAW

Until the passage of the Dick Bill, which federalized the National Guard, the whole militia system was subject to many weaknesses which in all previous wars resulted in much inefficiency and much embarrassment to the leaders of the Nation's Armies. Strictly a State force, it was little subject to the control of the President, and, in time of War, could not involuntarily be ordered into Federal Service as an organization. Washington had declared: "If I was called upon to declare upon oath whether the Militia had been most serviceable or hurtful, upon the whole, I should subscribe to the latter." Every President from Washington to McKinley had urged Congress to pass legislation on the subject.

General Dick introduced a bill federalizing the National Guard and making it an actual part of the Army instead of purely a local organization, and, by his skillful management, succeeded in having the bill passed unanimously by both Houses of Congress.

THE GENERAL STAFF LAW

General Henry C. Corbin and General William H. Carter, upon their return from Germany, where, as observers, they studied the German system, reported in favor of the establishment of a General Staff. General Carter, Elihu Root, then Secretary of War, and General Dick in collaboration formulated the General Staff Bill. Owing largely to the influence of General Dick, it was finally made effective legislation. Its great importance to the Army was fully vindicated during the late war.

THE WEST POINT LAW

While General Dick, as a member of the Congressional Committee, was investigating hazing at West Point, two

Akron officers of the Regular Army, professors at West Point, Col. Gustave J. Fiebeger and Col. Wright Edgerton, the son of Governor Edgerton, in collaboration with Col. Larned, had developed plans for the improvement of the West Point Military Academy. At that time, there was only one modern building, Culm Hall. General Dick prepared, and had passed, a bill to carry these plans into effect, directly resulting in giving to the country an institution the finest of its kind in the World. Marshall Foch, Admiral Togo, and Marshall Haig have so expressed themselves.

THE WORLD WAR

With deep regret and with an apology to his comrades, the author, in spite of the mass of information collected by him, compelled by space limitations, offers the following brief and incomplete account of Akron's part in the World War.

On April 3, 1917, following the President's Message calling for the declaration of war, Mayor William Laub issued a proclamation guaranteeing protection to foreign citizens; the officers of the National Guard received blanks for recruiting to war strength; and Miss Jane Gladwin commenced recruiting a Red Cross Nurse Organization.

Recruiting offices were opened on South Howard st., South Main st., at the Court House, and the Hamilton Cigar Store.

Immediately, the National Guard, recently returned from service on the Border, prepared for mobilization. The Eighth Reg. O. N. G., was drafted into Federal service and became the 146th Infantry, and eventually became a part of the 37th Division.

When entering the service, Col. Edward Vollrath of Bucyrus was its commanding officer, and Frank C. Gerlach, of Wooster, its Lieut. Col. Major Willis Bacon, afterwards Lieut. Col., of Tiffin, Ohio, now a lawyer of

Akron, and Major William E. Walkup, commanded two of its battalions.

In August, 1917, Col. Vollrath was promoted and was superseded by Lieut. Col. Gerlach, who in turn, was superseded by Col. Charles C. Weybrecht of Alliance. In August, 1918, Col. Weybreth, at his own request, was transferred, and Col. James N. Pickering from G. H. Q. assumed command. In February, 1919, he was replaced by Col. Gerlach, who was in command until the regiment was mustered out.

On July 15, 1917, the Regiment was called back into service. Companies B and F, Machine Gun Company, and Sanitary Detachment were from Akron. The Akron units mobilized and went into camp at Silver Lake. At that time, the officers of the Companies were as follows:

Company B.

Captain ..... Samuel J. Cole
First Lieut. ..... Thomas D. Weaver
Second Lieut. ..... Daniel O. Webster

Company F.

Captain ..... William C. Yontz
First Lieut. ..... Charles Ustine
Second Lieut. ..... Michael Dierdorf

Machine Gun Company.

Captain ..... Ralph L. Randall
First Lieut. ..... Eston W. Kiplinger
Second Lieut. ..... Ralph Jackson
Second Lieut. ..... Raymond E. Day

Sanitary Detachment.

Major ....Harry B. Bertolette, Shreve
First Lieut. ..... Harold J. Gordon, Cleveland
First Lieut. ..... Joseph H. Boutwell, Cleveland
First Lieut. ..... Russell J. Caton, Bucyrus

On September 29th, the Regiment entrained for Montgomery, Alabama, arriving there on October 1, 1917.

After a strenuous training period, it left for Camp Lee, Virginia, on May 23, 1918, arriving there on May 25, 1918. The regiment was recruited full strength, and, on June 12, 1918, left Camp Lee. On June 15th, it sailed from New York Harbor on the S. S. Leviathan, and arrived in Brest Harbor, France, on June 22, 1918. It was unloaded on June 23rd and marched to Pontazsean Barracks. It left Brest on June 26th, detrained at Beaumont June 29, 1918, and entrained again on July 23, 1918. On July 24th, it detrained at Moyen and marched to Ramberviller, and, on July 31st, it proceeded from Ramberviller to Vacqueville. From there it went to Revigney, then to Haironville and from there, on September 19, 1918, to the woods near Ricicourt. On September 20th, the 37th Division relieved the 89th Division and went into support.

On September 26th, the Regiment "jumped off" on the Verdun Drive through Avacourt to Montfaucon. On the first day of the drive, the 145th Infantry was ahead, but, in the evening, the 146th passed through the lines and became the front line. It was getting dusk when the second battalion of the 146th emerged from the woods to the southwest of Montfaucon. Montfaucon had been the stronghold of the German Army for four years, and from its height the Crown Prince had watched during previous battles. Colonel Pickering ordered Major Monihan, Commander of the Second Battalion, to attack Montfaucon from the West; but, by the time the battalion arrived in position, it was too dark, and orders were issued to hold off until the morning. Patrols were sent out during the night, and at daybreak the Regiment had some of its hardest patrol fighting. Four patrols of the Second Battalion were engaged. They captured a number of prisoners and machine guns. The casualties were fully sixty per cent of the men sent out.

On the 28th, the attack was resumed, and the division

advanced five kilometers. On the night of September 30th, it was relieved by the 32nd Division.

The 37th Division was then entrained and proceeded to Xames where it remained from October 5th to October 16th.

On October 16th, it was sent to Belgium, detraining at Boesinghe near Ypres, Belgium; thence proceeding to Staden, and the German Barracks, then to Lichterville, and then to Thielt, where it arrived on October 28th, 1918. From October 30th to November 4th, it was in the drive from Thielt to Ooselghem. On November 4th, it was sent to Muelbeke and on November 8th to Deynze. It took part in the second German Drive from Deynze to Voorde which lasted from November 9th to November 11th, the day of the Armistice.

After the Armistice, the Akron units moved further into Belgium about twenty kilometers, and were then withdrawn and sent to Northern France. They sailed from Brest for America on March 18, 1919. The following is a brief outline of their movements from the day of the Armistice until the day of sailing, which is taken from the excellent diary of First Lieut. Eston W. Kiplinger of the Machine Gun Company:

Nov. 17, 1918—Sunday, King Albert of Belgium was in Nederswalm.

Nov. 18, 1918—Neerweldon to Velsioque—Ruddershove.

Nov. 21, 1918—Velsioque to Heeds—Aspers.

Nov. 22, 1918—Heeds—Aspers to Denterghem.

Nov. 23, 1918—Denterghem to Lendelede.

Dec. 4, 1918—Lendelede to Stader.

Dec. 5, 1918—Stader to Prover—Over shelled area.

Dec. 7, 1918—Prover to Esquelbecq.

Dec. 17, 1918—Esquelbecq to Robrouck Bollezeele.

Jan. 12, 1919—Robrouck to Champfremont.

Feb. 17, 1919—Champfremont to Fye to Conge (Vivion) Conge to Brest.
March 18, 1919—Sailed from Brest to return home.

AMMUNITION TRAIN

The 308th Ammunition Train was organized on July 15, 1917, with 180 men and three officers. The train was split up into three companies: Truck Company No. 2, commanded by First Lieut. John H. Wilcox, of Akron; Truck Company No. 3, by First Lieut. Frank J. Bell; and Truck Company No. 4, by First Lieut. William E. Eauer of Barberton. Each company consisted of 55 men, the fifteen men remaining being mustered in as Military Police.

On August 5th, the three companies were mustered into Federal Service and were reorganized, fifteen men being taken from each company and transferred to Caisson Company E, 112th Am. Tr. Company No. 4 was transferred to Company A, Lieut. Wilcox remaining in command, and Company No. 3 was transferred to Lieut. Charles Gregg's company, of Columbus, and was called Company B. Lieuts. Bell and Bauer were both transferred to the 147th Infantry. Company A was increased to 146 men, and Capt. R. D. Avery took command. He, in turn, was succeeded by Capt. H. H. Stolberg of Canton. When Capt. Stolberg was wounded in France, Capt. H. Johnson replaced him, and he, in turn, becoming sick, was replaced by Lieut. McCune, who remained in command until the Company was mustered out. Companies B and A containing the Akron men were attached to the 73rd and 74th Infantry Brigades of the 37th Division and fought with it in all of its fights.

112th ENGINEERS—The 112th Engineers also saw service in the Meuse Argonne and Lys-Escaut Sector. The Company of Capt. Tolles had the following officers: Capt., H. R. Heckert, M. C.; Capt., F. C. Tolles; 1st

Lieut., Okley F. Meyers; 1st Lieut., Donald F. Pancoast; 1st Lieut., Allan J. Simmons; 2nd Lieut., John C. Christman.

134th REG. F. A.—The 1st Reg. O. F. A., which afterwards became the 134th, had as its commanding officers, Col. Harold M. Bush of Columbus and Lieut. Col. Hurl J. Albrecht. Its headquarters company and Battery B were from Akron. Their officers, though subsequently changed, were as follows:

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY: Capt. Welton A. Snow; First Lieut., Oscar D. Hollenbeck.

BATTERY B: Capt., Joseph J. Johnston; First Lieut., Harry H. Hedges; First Lieut., Carl J. Kavenagh; Second Lieut., John H. Wise; Second Lieut., William E. Leahy.

BATTERY B—A REMARKABLE RECORD

When war was declared, the army was entirely unprepared. It needed twenty thousand trained artillery officers, and it had only about four hundred. Battery B's greatest service to the country was in producing and training artillery officers.

Originally, the battery was largely a society organization of prominent young college men, mostly members of the Akron University Club. On November 15, 1915, it was converted into a battery of the Ohio National Guard, 104 men reporting for mustering in. Its original officers were Earl J. Albrecht, captain; J. J. Johnston and P. W. Caldwell, first lieutenants; J. J. Babbitt and J. R. Taylor, second lieutenants. From July 4th until March 19th, it served on the border. From April 30th to June 29th, 1917, Battery B was stationed at Camp Perry training recruits, and, from June 30th to October 12, 1917, it was at Fort Benjamin Harrison, where it helped to train student officers of the First and Second Officers' Training Camps.

On October 14th, it arrived at Camp Sheridan, near Montgomery, Alabama. There, it trained enlisted men, until it went to France. On June 27th, 1918, the battery entrained; and, at 8:30 a. m., it embarked on board the "Nestor," an English transport ship. It arrived at Liverpool, July 10th, proceeding thence to South Hampton, arriving at Havre, France, at 6 o'clock a. m., July 13th. After twelve days at Cestas, it marked twenty miles to Camp Souge. It was moved to the front in the latter part of September, arriving at Champigneulles. On October 11th and 12th, its gun crews relieved French gunners on the Marbache sector, firing its first shot at 2 p. m., on the 11th at Etley. It remained six days at Camp Ouest, and, after an all night march, on October 28th, it arrived in Apremont. On November 4th, it fired its largest barrage, 1724 rounds (300 rounds being considered a day's fire).

After the Armistice, the battery began its return, sailing on the New Hampshire, U. S. N., on March 12th, arriving at Newport News at 2 p. m., March 24, 1919. It arrived in Cleveland on April 2nd, paraded in Cleveland April 3rd, in Akron April 4th, and on April 5th in Columbus, Ohio. On April 10, 1919, just three years, four months and twenty-five days after its organization, the battery was demobilized.

THE DRAFTED MEN—83RD DIVISION

Most of the men furnished by the draft in Akron, about 10,000 in all, became members of the 83rd Division which was The All Ohio Division. The division was organized in September, 1917, at Camp Sherman, Maj. Gen. E. F. Glenn commanding.

It trained at Camp Sherman, Ohio, from September, 1917, to June 8, 1918, at which time it sailed for overseas. A large proportion of the 83rd Division was split up for replacement troops, but one regi-

ment of infantry, the 332nd, and all the artillery were held intact.

The 158th F. A. Brigade consisted of the 322nd, 323rd and 324th Regiments. The artillery continued their training in France until the latter part of September, 1918, when they were placed in the line. During the month of October, they were attached to the 29th Division and saw service east of the Meuse and north of Verdun. When the 29th Division was taken out of the line at the last of October, the 158th F. A. Brigade was assigned to the 32nd Division and went into service north of Montfaucon. During its service it supported in turn the 91st, 29th, 18th (French), and 32nd Divisions. On November 11, 1918, when the Armistice was signed, they were fighting at Ecurey, east of the Meuse.

After the Armistice, the brigade continued with the 32nd Division and went forward with the Army of Occupation into the Coblenz Bridgehead. This duty lasted until May, 1919, when they were ordered to return to America.

The following Akron soldiers, who were originally members of Battery B of the Eighth Regiment, were among the commissioned officers in this brigade:

First Lieut. Eldon Bevington, First Lieut. Lee W. Breese, Capt. Clarence R. Foust, First Lieut. Gilbert F. Lane (afterwards a captain), First Lieut. Russell L. Palmer, Maj. Alfred L. Richmond, Second Lieut. Roy C. Limback, Capt. Eugene Noyes, Capt. John A. Knowlton.

332ND INFANTRY—The 332nd Infantry, U. S. A., had, perhaps, the most unique experience in the A. E. F. All Summit county national army men were at first sent to this regiment, and Companies E and F were in the beginning entirely composed of these men, and several other companies had large contingents. Between 1000 men and 1500 men from Sum-

mit county were, at one time or another, on its rolls. The 332nd Infantry on detached service, was sent to Italy during July, 1918.

After a period of training at and near Valleggio, the 2nd Battalion took over an important section of front line trenches on the Piave river in the Saluotol sector near the famous Gravi di Popodapoli. The entire regiment took part in the Battle of Vittorio Veneto, one of the major engagements of the war and almost the only one that went to a decision, and the 2nd Battalion distinguished itself at the fight at the crossing at the Tagliamento river at Pont della Delizia.

During the Italian offensive the regiment was attached to the 31st Italian Division under Maj. Gen. De Angelis Ciro and was part of the 10th Italian army commanded by Maj. Gen. the Earl of Cavan, that army being composed in part of British troops. The general in chief was Gen. Armando Diaz, since creating Duca della Vittoria. The associations of the regiment with its allies were most agreeable. Later the regiment passed under the ultimate command of Maj. Gen. Charles G. Treat, U. S. A.

After the Armistice, which, on the Italian front, came on November 4, 1918, the 3rd Battalion was dispatched to Fiume, that city of contention between the Italians and the Jugo-Slavs. Here, they materially assisted in preventing international difficulties. Capt. Jasper McKinney of Akron commanded Company M of this Battalion. The 2nd Battalion was dispatched to the Bocche di Cattaro in southern Delmatia. Of this battalion, Company F, one of the Summit county companies, and commanded by Capt. Constant Southworth, (later major) had perhaps the most picturesque experiences of all the regiment.

The regiment later assembled at Genoa, the 2nd Battalion going by sea around the Italian Peninsula.

The journey home was via Gibraltar. All were landed at Hoboken in April and early in May, 1919. The 332nd Infantry was mustered out at Camp Sherman.

The regiment enjoyed a great reputation for efficiency and smartness.

The long detached service developed a remarkable feeling of comradeship. Since demobilization, no organization has more regularly observed the regimental and company reunions. The regimental reunion of 1922 was held at Akron.

The 332nd Infantry is the only regiment that wears its own shoulder insignia: a gold lion of St. Mark on a red field. The two officers above mentioned and Lieut. Clyde F. Berry are the only former officers now residents of the county.

THOSE WHO DIED

A list of Akron's World War dead, 304 in number, is engraved upon a bronze tablet on the Akron University Memorial Stadium, which has been dedicated to their memory. It is believed to be complete.

THE RED CROSS

The Akron Chapter of the Red Cross Association has, as its general chairman, Rev. Franklyn Cole Sherman.

Those who worked directly with the soldiers were: Miss Heroise Hendershot, secretary of the Red Cross Society, Mrs. R. A. McCorkle, Miss George Ann Peet, Miss Sara Sanders, and Miss Alice Staphel. 8697 families received advice and assistance.

Akron women sewed 63,196 articles, and knitted 87,431 articles, consisting of sweaters, helmets, socks, wristlets, mufflers, bedspreads, bag covers, wipes and sponges, and made 30,000 surgical dressings per month. The canteen committee, Mrs. Byron Robinson, chairman, fed 22,482 soldiers, 4750 sailors, and

1807 drafted men, using tons of provisions, including 33,300 cookies and 35,034 sandwiches.

AKRON HOME GUARDS

On April 3, 1917, the Akron Home Guards, an organization of approximately 1000 men, divided into ten companies, most of whom were beyond draft age, was formed, and, two days before the war was declared, commenced drilling. The guards were sworn in as special police officers. Rev. George P. Atwater was elected colonel, and M. A. Knight, C. D. Siegfried, C. J. Bowman, James Shaw, B. A. Polsky, J. B. Huber, J. C. Converse, W. C. Read, R. Bulman and John Gauthier, captains. Subsequently, Vincent Stevens and Fred W. Work were appointed lieutenant colonels, and Andrew Auble, captain. The guard performed many police duties and assisted the federal department of justice. It furnished an efficient guard for the City Water Works Pumping Station near Kent, Ohio, day and night, continuously, during the war.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND THE AMERICAN PROTECTIVE LEAGUE

W. A. Garrigan, the agent of the department of justice on duty at Akron, found himself unable, without assistance, to carry on the vast amount of work necessary in this composite community. He did not have money allowed even to pay his office rent. The American Protective League, with Elihu Harpham as chief, having 283 unpaid volunteer members, made it possible for him to carry on the investigations needed. The league commenced operations on August 16, 1917. By the close of the war it had handled approximately 15,000 cases, mainly being concerned in rounding up slackers, deserters, alien enemies, and absent soldiers, and in combating German inspired propaganda and various other in-

fractions of the war legislation necessary to protect the government and maintain the morale of the people and the army. Also, it conducted many investigations of persons applying for commissions and appointments in the Red Cross, Y. M. C. A., etc.

PROPAGANDA—Just as Germany carried on her propaganda in this country, trying in every conceivable way to hinder the government and break down the morale of the army and the people at home, by spreading dissatisfaction and encouraging criticism, socialism, and draft evasion; so, also, our government was busy in similar propaganda abroad. Indeed, it is admitted by the leaders of the German army that the German defeat was very much influenced by the breaking down of the morale of the German people resulting from information received through allied propaganda. Mr. L. R. Thomas, a resident of Akron, had charge of the work for the United States government in Holland, and performed very efficient service, both in Holland and across the lines, by use of motion picture films, newspapers, tracts and other methods of advertising.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICES

Again, it is difficult to discriminate among those who performed distinguished services and impossible to mention all.

COL. ARTHUR L. CONGER—Excepting President Wilson alone, no other American had a more prominent part in the negotiations which resulted in Germany's signing the treaty of Peace, than had Col. Arthur L. Conger of the United States Army.

He has had a long and honorable service in the army. Enlisting as a corporal in the 12th N. Y. Vol. Inf., on May 13, 1898, he rose by stages to the rank of colonel. During the Philippine Insurrection, for gal-

lantry in action, he was granted a distinguished service medal. During the World War he served as a member of Gen. Pershing's staff, afterwards, as commander of a brigade of infantry at the front, and subsequently, as Chief of Staff at General Headquarters in Germany. He is a graduate of Harvard University, the Army War College, and the Army Staff College, and is a distinguished graduate of the Infantry and Cavalry School. He is our present military attache at Berlin.

PVT. HARVEY STICKLES, Hq. Co., 166th Inf., received a Divisional Citation and an award of a Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism at Chateau Thierry on July 28, 1919.

SGT. GEORGE BLAIN WARD, 118th Inf., was awarded an American Distinguished Service Cross and a British D. C. M. for extraordinary bravery in action.

MAJ. RAY FRANCIS JOLLY, M. C., Sanitary Inspector of the District of Paris, was awarded a French medal of honor for honorable and courageous conduct.

SGT. HENRY C. LA MORDER, 166th Inf., was awarded an American Distinguished Service Cross and received a French Croix de Guerre for bravery in action in March, 1918, and an American Army Citation for extraordinary heroism in action at Buzancy, France, on October 16, 1918.

CAPT. HAROLD J. GORDON, 148th Ambulance Co., 112th Sanitary Train, 37th Division, was awarded an American Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action near Heuron, Belgium, on November 4, 1918, at the Crossing of Escault river. He administered first aid and rescued wounded soldiers repeatedly in the face of withering machine gun, rifle and shell fire, in one instance crawling beside a wound-

ed soldier in order to protect the soldier from the enemy's fire, with his own body.

MAJ. ALFRED L. RICHMOND of the 158th F. A. Brigade, received a Brigade Citation and was awarded a Croix de Guerre for high valor in the Meuse Argonne offensive in October, 1918.

COMPANY F—146TH INFANTRY

Company F, 146th Infantry, had the following high honors bestowed upon its Akron officers and men for extraordinary bravery in action:

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS—Sgt. Charles M. Smith, Corp. John H. Sigler, Mch. Nathaniel C. Triplett, Pvt. (First Class) James Neely, Pvt. (First Class) Mark W. Mails.

BELGIAN WAR CROSS—First Sgt. John Porosky, Bugler Caciale Donato.

CROIX de GUERRE—First Lieut. Warren L. Farver, Corp. Oliver H. Thompson, Pvt. Ralph C. Groves (Sanitary Detachment).

THOMAS B. WELKER, a member of Company B, 146th Inf., for extraordinary bravery in action, resulting in his death, received an award of the Distinguished Service Cross.

LIEUT. DWITE H. SCHAFFNER—1st. Lieut. Dwite H. Schaffner, Company K, 306th Inf., 79th Div., was the only resident of Akron to receive an award of the Congressional Medal of Honor for services in the World War. The medal was awarded for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty," in action in Boureuilles, France, September 28, 1918, while leading his men through terrific machine gun, rifle and artillery fire. After repeated attempts, he personally captured a machine gun, mortally wounded and captured a German offi-

cer, and secured valuable information from him. He maintained his advanced position for five hours, although almost completely surrounded, and is credited with saving his company from death or capture.

The military record of the medical profession of Summit county is found in the section of this history, "Yesterday's With Akron Doctors."

NATIONAL DEFENSE SINCE THE WAR

Alarmed at the helpless condition of unpreparedness of the United States preceding and during the World War, which prevented the country from placing an American army on the battle line until fourteen months after we entered the war, and which would have made it impossible for the American army, from lack of material and weapons, even at the time of the Armistice, and in spite of our enormous expenditures of money, time and effort, to have maintained a single day's battle against any strong force without relying upon her allies for assistance;—General Pershing and the War Department formulated plans for defense. The result was the passage of the National Defense Act which established the only sound policy of national defense the nation ever had. Under it, the plan adopted contemplates an army consisting of a small Regular Army, a National Guard, and an Organized Reserve intended to provide a trained, organized and balanced force which may be readily expanded and developed into an adequate component of the army to meet any major emergency. Ninety thousand officers, most of them with World War experience, have been enrolled in the reserve.

The total number of Reserve Officers in Summit county is approximately 200 and the number of Enlisted Reservists 248, distributed among the following units which have been allocated to Akron and vicinity.

Three Hundred Twenty-Second Field Art. less 2nd Bn.; 476th Field Art. H. D. Q.; 331st Inf. 2nd Bn., 83rd Div.; 599th Engineers, (Railway); 385th, 386th, 387th and 388th Airship Companies; 317th, 318th, 319th and 320th Balloon Companies; 45th Balloon Group Hq.; 342nd Balloon Service; 360th Photo Section; 415th Airdrome Co.; 64th Balloon Group Hq.; 361st and 364th Balloon Companies, 377th Balloon Service Co., 420th Airdrome Co.

THE NATIONAL GUARD in Akron consists of 3rd Bn., Hq. Co., Infantry Companies I and F, a Machine Gun Company, 145 Inf.; a Hospital Company Hq. Det. of 2nd Sq. of 107th Cavalry, and Troop E; a total of about 360 officers and men.

THE R. O. T. C. of the Municipal University of Akron, an infantry battalion of about 300, is an important part of the National Defense System. Its primary object is the training of selected students for appointment as reserve officers. Under the able direction of its regular army instructors, Capt. W. L. Tydings, 1st. Lt. Chas. R. Smith and 1st. Lt. Kenton P. Cooley, the organization has been so carefully trained that it is rated by army inspectors as one of the best in the country. Lts. Smith and Cooley have been ordered to foreign service and have been replaced by First Lts. Merl L. Broderick, 11th Inf., and Rexford Shores, 42nd Inf.

The cadet officers of the battalion are as follows:

Lieutenant Colonel, Commanding, Alton R. Wells; Major, Executive Officer, Levi A. McDonald; Battalion Adjutant, Dave B. Allen; Captain, Company "A," Ralph F. Dickerhoof; Captain, Company "B," Theodore P. Eberhard; Captain, Company "C," Francis D. Glasheen; First Lieutenant (Comdg.) Co. "D," Richard F. Snyder.

IN CONCLUSION

Let us ever keep fresh in our memory, and in the memory of our children, the story of the glorious achievements, the devotion, and sacrifices, of those who served and died! Let us not be misled into thinking it the part either of wisdom or of gratitude to suppress the record of their patriotism and of their valor in battle.

"It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom —and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

The Coming of The Automobile

By Herbert A. Townsley

EARLY in the nineties, the town was humming along interested in its potteries; its cereal mills; its harvester plants; its Buchtel College on the hill and its rubber plant was showing increased production meeting the demand for bicycle tires. Bicycles had not yet become as common as they were later on, but they were coming all over the country and the pneumatic tire was something new and rubber manufacturers were rare.

About the time the city council was busy regulating bicycle traffic, making the pedestrian safe by curbing the dangerous bicycle rider, there appeared on the streets of Akron the fore-runner of what was destined to be the greatest manufacturing industry in the world and Akron, contributing a major part, was to receive its greatest impetus in commercial growth.

Down the street, at a maximum speed of perhaps three miles per hour, a little uncertain, a little wobbly, but still propelling itself, came a very odd looking machine. In the middle was a brass upright boiler mounted on four wire wheels with perhaps one and a quarter inch solid rubber tires. A man sitting in front at the steering wheel guided the machine and one man back of the boiler was keeping up steam.

This was the first automobile in America!

This was Achille Philion and his famous steam carriage. He is said to have begun work on it in 1887, but we cannot learn of it being on the street until 1890. Old Akron residents will remember the odd machine running around the streets. John R. Gammeter, when

asked about it said, "Yes, I helped push it up the hills many a time."

Philion was a show man, brought to Akron through his marriage to Bell Melvin, one of Akron's fair daughters. His specialty was walking a sphere up a spiral tower and in the steam carriage he used to arrive in state at the exhibition ground. Performances were far enough apart so that Philion or his engineer had plenty of time between acts to fix the chain, tighten up the screws and pack the steam line, etc., and get ready for the next performance. No doubt, there was plenty to do between acts but the big idea is, that this was the first nearly practical automobile, although it could not have been called an automobile then, for this term came from France later on.

Think of the vehicles of 1890! The writer has in mind Ashland av., an asphalt boulevard in Chicago. He was living there at that time and was away from there for a number of years after that, so that the picture and the date are certain. Horse-drawn vehicles, of course, dominated all the streets but bicycles were filling up the boulevards. Mostly high wheeled bicycles—the Columbia, Victor and Rambler. Safety bicycles were new and were the Humber, Coventry and other imported English machines. Now, all bicycles are "safety" bicycles and the term is lost, but then a "safety" was a bicycle with two small wheels that did not have the habit of throwing the rider over the handle bars every time he ran over a brickbat or a stick on the road as the "Ordinary" did. The "Ordinary" consisted of a 54 or 56 inch wheel in front or larger or smaller according to the reach of your leg, and a small wheel in the rear some 12 inches in diameter. The rider was about balanced on the front wheel. Nearly every time he hit any kind of an obstruction with the front wheel, he took a "header"

unless he saw it coming and leaned back and jerked up the front wheel to offset the force of the impact.

At this time, all rubber tires were solid tires, or so-called cushion tires. Dr. Dunlop may have made a tire out of a piece of garden hose before this time, but the news had not penetrated so far west. But it was not for long. Dr. Dunlop could not hide his light under a bushel when gentle folk were bumping around on solid tires.

It was at this time that I could have traded my bicycle for a solid gold Deuber-Hampden engineers' watch that cost $140; but I figured I could get along without the watch but I could not do without my bicycle.

Then, in 1891, I think it was, we heard of a bicycle in Evansville, fifty miles away, that had "hose pipe" tires. Two of us took the train down to see it. The tires were said to be Dunlop tires and were two or two and one-half inch tires—so big that special forks had to be made for them. They did not look like tires as we know them now. They were more like inner tubes partly inflated, then wrapped on the rims with tire tape. The tape furnished the wearing surface. We had gone fifty miles to see the new wonder and were somewhat disappointed when we could not have a ride on the bicycle with the wide rims and air tires, but one of the tires was "sick" and the owner was afraid to attempt to fix it without expert advice.

In another year, the pneumatic tire was to be had on most wheels and the bicycle mania began. Andy Auble (A. Auble of Akron) rode his bicycle to the World's Fair in Chicago, in 1893. Nearly every young man had at least one "century" to his credit. That meant he had done a hundred miles in a day on his bicycle. Every town had more than one bicycle club and several bicycle agencies. Akron, by reason of

having an established rubber plant was able to cash in on this new industry.

The bicycle paved the way for the automobile. It developed the pneumatic tire. It developed the ball bearing. It developed the necessity of strength with light weight. It developed the golden mean in the size of threads for use on machinery subject to road vibration—too fine threads would be easily stripped, too coarse threads would wiggle loose.

Now the inventors were all busy. Seeing the immense success of the bicycle, anyone could see a fortune awaiting the man who could build a machine that would provide a family carriage, using its own power. From a distance we heard the foreign names of mysterious motor wagons of fabulous merits—Mercedes, Panhard, De Dion, Charron, Girardeau Voigt, etc., but we did not know much about them.

Then we heard of Haynes' new gasoline carriage. Steam carriages, electric carriages and now gasoline —it was a toss up which would work out—there was trouble aplenty with any of them.

In 1898 Charley Motz, of Akron, built a gasoline car here. He says that at that time Alexander Winton had made several in Cleveland. Stearns was experimenting. Over in Warren J. W. and W. D. Packard were at work. Winton had already inquired for a pneumatic tire bigger than a bicycle tire. In all, there were twenty-seven automobiles in this country. Charley had them counted and knew just where they were. Of course, that did not cover the hundreds of experiments all around the country that were never finished. Charley says there were many cars built that would not run, but he had the distinction of building one that would not stop.

One day he and Frank B. Theiss had to make a trip to Wadsworth. They decided to try out Charley's

new car. Charley had built it with a regular machinists' clutch and had a perfectly good electric switch to control the ignition. On the way, they found her heating up and somewhat acting up, so Charley thought he would stop and let her cool off. Then he found the clutch had "frozen" so he turned off the spark but she was then so hot she ran by pre-ignition. There was no way to stop it and no telling what kind of difficulty might show up in the road, so Charley kept on, trusting to luck, until he saw a bank on top of a hill where the road had been cut out, so he told Frank to look out, and he steered into the bank. That stopped the car all right, but the impact jarred the clutch loose and the engine raced. Now there was a new difficulty. A racing engine of the early days, when they were made some six-inch bore, with no thought of balance or lightening the reciprocating parts, would soon tear the whole works to pieces. But there was plenty of dirt around there and Charley, in time, choked the gasoline supply and salvaged the wreck.

In 1898, '99, or maybe it was 1900, the first commercially made automobile came to town. Credit is given Andy (A. B.) Rinehart for running the first automobile in Akron—a Winton. He was closely followed by Clarence Howland who bought a Mobile of America, a steamer stanhope. Everyone who bought an automobile in those days took a sporting chance. I drove, occasionally, one of these Mobile of America steam cars down in Atlanta in 1901. It belonged to my boss. Half the time it came home under its own power and half the time behind a horse. It was the first car in Atlanta.

The 22nd of August, 1900, was a "red" letter day in Akron. Bill (W. E.) Young was mayor and Police Chief John Durkin was then doing patrol duty

on Exchange st. That night, an infuriated mob blew up the city hall, where the Akron Savings & Loan building now stands, broke into several hardware stores and robbed them of guns and ammunition, created a lot of consternation, and worst of all, ran our prize electric police patrol wagon into the canal and ruined it. This machine was built in Akron by the "Akron Automobile Co.," but was designed by Frank Loomis, then engineer for the city fire department, and was the first motor patrol wagon in the world.

By 1902 automobile manufacturers began to reach out for agents. In Atlanta, some reckless chap had the nerve to buy a whole car load of Oldsmobile runabouts and became that company's first dealer. Andy Auble came to Akron from Wadsworth with his bicycle tools, opened up a repair shop and took on the Oldsmobile agency.

John Sauder bought a sample Rambler, with the agency, and opened a shop on South Main st. A repair shop was then of prime importance to the owner of an automobile. Andy's first customer and, in fact, the first one to buy an automobile in Akron, was Frank H. Adams of the then First National Bank.

Bear in mind, what was happening in Akron, was happening in every city in the United States. The automobile was just getting a footing. Many of the present manufacturers are old; many flared up, flickered and went out. As a whole, the motor tire industry was not of sufficient importance to make the rubber companies take time to look up what is meant by mass production.

An important event came in 1904. At that time, Henry Houk says, he drove H. S. Firestone's horse and carriage down to the Union Station to take Henry Ford and Jim Couzens (now Senator Couzens) out to the Firestone plant on Miller av. Firestone was then

making solid rubber carriage tires. The result was a contract of sufficient size to put Firestone into the pneumatic tire business. The visitors left with the admonition that they would not be back until they could be met at the station with an automobile—preferably a Ford. This was big then, but amounted to little in the light of later developments.

At about this time, dealers were showing signs of life and in 1906 Andy Auble built Akron's first garage for the special purpose of selling and repairing automobiles. This was on Buchtel av., just east of Main st., and is the place now occupied by The Franklin Sales & Service Co. When it was put up, most people thought Andy was foolish to build such a mammoth place just for automobiles, but it has been enlarged since then and other and larger buildings have been erected in Akron for the same purpose. The first automobile show in Akron was held here, the principal attraction, outside of the new model automobiles, being Philion's old steam carriage. If it could be found now, it would be a star attraction anywhere.

Before commercial cars were thought of, A. Poisky Co. and Lawrence Halter had the temerity to put beds on pleasure cars and use them for delivery wagons. This was showing a lot of nerve at that time when the "load" often had to walk home.

The City of Akron has the distinction of purchasing the first piece of motor driven fire apparatus and was the second city to be completely equipped. Our city fathers had to be shown and Webb had a strenuous time demonstrating his fire apparatus, resulting in an accident, a law suit and necessary entanglements before he got his deal over in 1908.

Garages were being built all over the country. The automobile was "in the public eye" and every automobile accident was repeated in all the newspa-

pers. In Akron, a spirited newspaper controversy was carried on between Arthur H. Marks of the Diamond Rubber Co., and Paul E. Werner of the Werner Printing Co., regarding the merits and the future of the automobile on the one side and the danger, the impracticability and the general worthlessness of the automobile on the other. The Werner Works then had one of the large payrolls of Akron so Mr. Werner's remarks carried weight. Mr. Marks was an able champion of the automobile. He was not the only one who was fined for exceeding the speed limit of eight miles an hour, but he was fined the most often. The controversy finally died out, each, no doubt, feeling he had the best of it. But Mr. Werner was perhaps the very last of Akron's chief citizens to buy a car. This he finally did, but he kept his horses and drove them for a good many years, and it was a curious trick of fate that he later became himself a tire manufacturer.

From 1906 up to the World War the automobile was on everyone's mind. It was the talk on all occasions and everybody wanted one. The industry was booming and Akron rubber manufacturers felt the need of more room, machinery and men.

A small obstacle to automobile manufacturers showed up in the Selden Patent. This was a basic patent claiming an invention on the combination of a power plant, clutch, transmission and brake—or something like that. The patent was old and had been renewed. The owners had it listed on their financial statement at two million dollars and had the automobile manufacturers divided into licensed and unlicensed manufacturers. From the bluff they put up, most of the car makers "fell for them" and were known as licensed manufacturers. A few contested the patent, chief among them were Ford and Rambler. After a legal battle, the judge took his time for his decision

and announced it during the progress of the Automobile Show in New York. The show was open only to "licensed" manufacturers. The decision appeared in the morning papers on the day of the big banquet of the exhibitors and, although the patent had been knocked out by Ford, they sent a special delegation to bring him to the banquet. The big news and the presence of Henry Ford was announced from the platform and, by acclamation Henry Ford was asked for a speech. Cheers and calls, "speech," "speech" continued. Finally a little wiry man arose and, when the crowd quieted down, addressed them this way: "It is my pleasure, my privilege and my business to speak for Mr. Ford. I am his attorney." Then followed a line of talk, so they say, that would make anyone undertsand why Ford won the decision.

There was now harmony in the ranks and dealers could sell both licensed and unlicensed cars. Dealers were springing up in the smaller cities and by 1909, Ford had reached the phenomenal output of ninety cars a day. More factories started up and Akron rubber factories prospered accordingly.

In the early days of motoring, the driver took all the blame for anything that happened on the road. He was popularly supposed to be an outlaw on the highway. The roads were built for horse-drawn vehicles and he was usurping their privileges.

As early as 1906, we have The Akron Automobile Club asking for a state franchise "to promote, in every practical way, the interests and rights of those owning automobiles, to encourage and promote the construction of good roads, the improvement of public highways, etc." This was signed by Fred W. Work, Sam G. Rogers, Fred Wood, Arthur H. Marks and N. O. Mather. The club had only a few members, but

there were scarcely more than one hundred motorists in the city.

In 1911, the club was reincorporated by F. L. Lamson, Guy E. Norwood, L. D. Brown, J. B. Campbell, B. A. Polsky and Geo. J. Allen. George H. Kile has been president of the club for a number of years and has seen it grow from a few hundred members to an institution of importance, now numbering eight to ten thousand members. It has been a big factor in handling all public problems of the motorist. Whenever there was a public need affecting the motorist the club got into action. Whenever one heard, "Why don't someone do something?" if it referred to the need of motorists, it was the club they referred to.

At first, the main objection to improved roads came from the country. Later, when the farmers became automobile owners, they all became good roads enthusiasts. For several years, it has been a question of which roads we could get the county and state to build, for the property owners all have been anxious to pay their proportion of the expense for the improvement.

Although some modern road building was going forward in other parts of Ohio at an earlier date, Summit County's activity in this direction was very slight prior to 1909. Then the West Market st. road, (now called Medina road) was built with state aid, to a point beyond Fairlawn. A year later the improvement was extended to the Ghent road. This was water-bound and tar-bound macadam, originally 14 feet wide. The present year this road is to be rebuilt to 28 feet wide. Arlington st., in 1911, was the first section of brick road in Summit county. By 1913 there was a hard road through to Cleveland by way of Hudson. Late in 1920 the section north from Richfield to the Cuyahoga county line was finished, making a second im-

proved road between Akron and Cleveland. The Northfield (Old State Road) route to Cleveland was finished as an improved thoroughfare in 1921.

There are in Summit county at this time 275 miles of improved highway, or 245 miles if a few sections of gravel and cinders be excluded. To date, Summit county's modern road building has cost about $7,000,000. The city has kept pace with street paving.

One bit of melancholy borders the picture of the automobile's arrival and universal adoption. It is the passing of the horse, in the city at least, except as a draft animal or for saddle purposes. Scores of fine equipages that once were seen in Akron's streets of an afternoon or Sunday are gone. A. G. Saalfield's spanking team of chestnuts was but one of many finely matched pairs. W. B. Miller, L. S. Pardee, I. R. Manton, A. B. Smith, Al. Boder, E. S. Bunnell, A. T. Paige, Fred Glass, N. O. Mather, Dr. W. W. Leonard, Wm. A. Palmer, George Hartman, Wm. J. Wilde, Fred Laub, A. H. Commins, Charlie Wolf, Edward Viall and numerous others exercised handsome roadsters daily. Time came when they were seen no more. A five-hundred dollar Brewster brougham sold for fifteen dollars at public sale. A two-hundred dollar, nickel-plated harness was knocked down at ten dollars—and so on. To horse lovers this was pathetic. But the automobile had come and the horse lover drove one with the rest. It was even more pathetic to see once fine horses, born and bred to better things, hitched to ash carts and hucksters' wagons. They were but survivors of a glorious day that had passed.

At first, the cities took a hand at regulating the automobile. They would issue licenses, so the police might be able to identify a car in event of an accident and, incidentally, it was for a small consideration. If one were lucky enough to own a machine that could

travel through several cities, he would have to purchase licenses every time he came to a town. Speed laws and other regulations were, of course, the product of the local authorities and not likely to be the same in any two places.

In 1908, the state issued the first automobile licenses which gave the owner a permit to go anywhere in the State of Ohio on the public roads. This was urged by the automobile clubs. In 1909, the legislature passed a speed law for automobiles, permitting them to be run at eight miles per hour in the business districts, fifteen miles per hour elsewhere within the limits of any incorporated city, and twenty miles per hour on the country roads and permitting no city to pass local ordinances to the contrary. Traffic laws have had much attention. The problem that has not yet been solved and which grows more acute, is the parking problem.

In the early days, there was no need to regulate traffic or parking.

Old pictures of Chicago and New York streets show carriage driving and parking anywhere on either side of the street. Traffic was first forced to the right when cable cars came into use preceding the electric street car. Traffic police were first called "life savers" and their job was to stand in the middle of congested street corners and keep women and children from under horses' feet. Now, there are thousands of men engaged in traffic duty, but, when one considers that there are approximately eighteen million cars to handle in the United States there are few enough.

In Akron, we will see perhaps fifty thousand cars registered this year. Every year, so far, we have seen an increase. Some time, we will have as many cars "junked," as sold. Then we will have reached the fabled "saturation point." Pessimists have predicted

that situation every year for fifteen years. Fortunately, for Akron, our rubber factories had sufficient foresight to equip themselves to handle the needs of the industry or we should not have been able to maintain the lead in the tire business.

There is one big consolation. After the automobile business slows up, there will be enough replacement tire business on these eighteen million or more cars on hand to keep up a demand for tires for some time.

The tire industry along with allied industries has doubled or tripled our population and greatly enhanced the wealth of the city.

There is no reason for thinking, however, that the automobile will not continue to be made for, as long as there is need of transportation, something has yet to be invented that will take its place.

It is hoped they will continue to build them better.

There will be changes, but the attractions in automobiles will be "blondes and brunettes, as usual."

Territorial Expansion

By Claude K. Traxler

FROM a settlement in the wilderness to the fifth city of Ohio and the thirty-second city in the United States in population, and covering 25.1 square miles of territory, in the space of a century, is the history of Akron in a sentence.

It was in 1825 that the plat of Akron consisting of 300 village lots with the usual streets, alleys and parks that was to become our present city, was filed with the recorder of Portage county. What is now known as Summit county was a part of Portage county at that time. The plat comprised the territory between Summit st. on the east, Center st. on the north, Chestnut st. on the south, on the east side of the canal; and Center st. on the north, Pine st. on the west, and an alley next south of what was formerly Catherine st., on the south, on the west side of the canal.

The prime mover in the new village was Gen. Simon Perkins of Warren. In 1833, Gen. Perkins, Dr. Eliakim Crosby and Judge Leicester King laid out another village which was bounded on the north by the present North st., on the west by Oak and Walnut sts., and on the south by Quarry, Bowery and West Center sts. The new town touched the boundary of the original Akron only on West Center st. Between them, to the east, was a wedged shape piece of land which belonged to neither townsite. This was called the "Gore" and in the struggles that followed was known as neutral ground. At first the new village was called Cascade, but the two towns soon came to be known as North Akron and South Akron.

In 1836, the two villages were united under the

name of Akron by the first charter given the town. The territory took in portions of Portage and Coventry townships and running as far as Fir and Spicer sts. on the east. It included a great deal more territory than had been platted in either town, a townsite one and one-half miles wide, east and west, and two and one-fourth miles long, north and south, and containing 2000 acres of land and a population of about 1200 people.

The sticking of stakes on Main st., for the O. and P. canal caused real estate upon that street to quad-

View of Akron From West Hill, 1846. (Howe.)

ruple in value in a very short time; but the panic of 1837 caused real estate to sink almost out of sight. To such an extent did the values depreciate, that in 1839 Samuel A. Lane (from whose "Fifty Years and Over of Summit County" many of these early facts were obtained) leased two lots on Main st., about where the M. O'Neil Company's store is located, for a period of five years for the payment of the taxes.

In 1835 these lots had sold for $1000 each and are now valued at from seven to ten thousand dollars a foot. Hundreds of lots reverted to the original owners or were sold for taxes.

May 19, 1846, ten years after incorporation, Perkins Addition was recorded, platting the land northeast of the original town over to the Little Cuyahoga river. In 1848-9, an addition was surveyed northwest of the canal, taking in Neptune Park, part of Aqueduct, Merriman and much of what became the fine residence section along West Market, about to Portage Path. The population in 1850 according to the federal census, was 3266 and in 1860 it was 3520. Bartges' Addition, in 1863, platted the land afterward covered by the B. F. Goodrich Company.

In 1864, due to the steady growth of the town, the coming of a new railroad—The Atlantic and Great Western, with direct connection with New York, the increase in manufactures and agriculture, and annexation of more territory south of East Exchange and east of Arch sts., extending to Arlington st., made it probable that the town had reached the number required for an advance in grade. So, without waiting for a federal census, an enumeration was made and it was found that the 5000 mark necessary had been passed. On January 21, 1865, the secretary of state proclaimed Akron a city of the Second class, after having been for forty years a village.

During Akron's first year as a city of the Second class, a number of additions were added, among them being the territory where Akron University stands, and north of Exchange st., up to the boundary of Middlebury, which was a line running north and south at the intersection of Buchtel av. and East Market st., and also land south as far as South st.

In 1870, when the Akron Rubber Company, later the B. F. Goodrich Company, was organized, Akron

was a thriving place of 10,006 people, according to the census. There was little to suggest that it was destined to become one of the best known cities in the world.

In 1872, by annexation, Middlebury became the Sixth Ward of the city and its population was increased by one-fifth. A region of land south of Exchange st., was also annexed this year. The census of 1880 showed the population to be 16,462. Even at this time the section of East Market between Forge and East Akron was a country road lined with rail and hedge fences, wood-lots and orchards. The leading residence section was from Forge to High sts. As years went on, a new order came. Industry brought men from the fields to labor in huge factories. Akron sprang from a lazy country village into a busy city. By council ordinances of 1882 and 1885 the district known as Old Forge was made a part of the city. In 1887 the council annexed territory to the northwest and the southwest until the line came almost to the east side of Summit lake and in 1890 the population had grown to 27,601.

In 1898 the city line was carried south to below Cole av., from Grant st., west to Summit lake. Meanwhile the city was growing rapidly in all directions. The city had plainly outgrown its limits when in 1900 the council again extended the corporate bounds, thinking possibly they were providing for all time. The new extension carried the north line of the city from Glenwood av. to three blocks north of Tallmadge av., on North Hill, taking in "Chalker's Landing," at Howard st. and Cuyahoga Falls av. The west line was extended west of Portage Path and Mayfield and carried south, west of the Manchester Road, including Summit lake within the city limits. The south line was extended east to Brown st.

The census of 1900 gave Akron a population of 42,-

728; but Akron continued to grow. About 1907, Akron's real awakening came. The rubber industry of the city, which before then was considered of only general importance, began to show signs of unbelievable development. Since then, the story of the city's growth coincides with the story of the growth of the rubber industry.

By the census of 1910, Akron's population was given as 69,067 and area, 11.48 square miles with 50.4% of its families owning their own homes. It

East Akron, 1891, Showing Much of Original Middlebury. View From Tallmadge Road

overflowed its limits in every direction. Allotment after allotment was platted. Two of the great rubber factories invested nearly two million dollars in laying out and developing little cities of their own.

Akron's growth was almost magic. It outgrew everything it owned, and in 1916 and 1917, some twenty to thirty thousand workmen came to the city. Her facilities could not keep pace. Homes were built as fast as labor and capital could construct them, but

not fast enough. Families were living in one or two rented rooms, in tents, barns, attics, and in fact, any place that was at all livable.

On December 27, 1915, the needs of all parties were supposed to have been met when council extended the boundaries of Akron as follows:—On the south, to and adjoining the town line of Kenmore; then north, east of Brown st., up to Cole av., then east to a point beyond Brittain Road, including Brittain and the distributing reservoirs, to north of Tallmadge road; west by Tallmadge Road to the Erie tracks, north again to above Tallmadge av. to the C. A. & C. tracks, then straight north to the Cuyahoga river. The north line took in the power house and the "Gorge," crosses and recrosses the Cuyahoga, and extended west across Portage Path to the Northern Ohio tracks; then follows the Northern Ohio railroad beyond Hawkins av., almost to Fairlawn, then runs south parallel with Hawkins av. till it crosses Exchange st. to Storer av.; thence extends south with a few irregularities to the Kenmore line. By this annexation, Akron was given a total area of 23.21 square miles and a population of about 120,000.

In 1920, there were annexed 1760 acres of land west of the corporation line extending from the Kenmore corporation line to Hawkins av. In 1923, another small section was annexed out South Arlington st., these additions giving the city a total area of 25.1 square miles and according to the 1920 census a population of 208,435, an increase of 139,368 or 201.8%. It was shown to be the busiest and fastest growing city in the world.

Akron is known as a city of homes and has many fine and beautiful residential sections, with 44.7% of the families owning their homes. Akron has developed rapidly, but the future outlook is much more promising than the past.

It will only be a few years until we have a Greater Akron, with Cuyahoga Falls on the north; Kenmore on the southwest; and Barberton adjoining Kenmore on the south, forming a continuous city ten miles long and having a population of between 250,000 and 300,000 people.

The Real Estate Board, organized in 1911 has been a big factor in Akron's growth and prosperity. The board was organized to advance the interests of the city of Akron and its citizens, by fostering public improvements, an equitable system of taxation, the enactment and enforcement of laws for the protection, welfare and convenience of real estate owners, leaseholders, purchasers and brokers, and for the general improvement of Greater Akron; to establish and maintain the real estate profession in a position of dignity and responsibility in the community by insisting upon a high standard of ethics in all transactions.

The Forward March of Building

By Philip P. Gott

LIKE literature and paintings, the buildings of any city or nation represent the ideals and the ability of its people. The log cabins, the mills, the boats, and the inns built in Akron in the early part of the nineteenth century, need only be compared with the magnificent homes, the factories covering acres and acres of ground, and the 14-story commercial buildings, to recognize the growth of the city and the new methods of construction.

The story of construction is the story of invention, of progress, and of development, not less interesting, not less wonderful than the history of any of our great industries. The construction industry, now a combination of industries, is the second largest in the United States. It is now, and has been one of Akron's leading industries. The history of building includes not only the story of the structures erected but also the manufacturing, the assembling, and the transportation of the materials, as well as the designing of these structures.

Without attempting to list or describe the first buildings erected, it is well to reflect upon difficulties encountered. The first step of the settler was to build a log cabin, the side walls of which were trees cut nearby, and the floor of which was made of puncheon or planks. The doors and windows were sawed out after the cabin was erected and the windows were covered with paper which had been lubricated with bear's oil or lard. Today the materials used are assembled from all sections of the country.

Since the erection of the first log cabin we have seen

a remarkable change in materials used. While brick and stone have been used for centuries, other materials have been invented which have made possible great changes in the type of structures. We must recognize that the wood column or beam has been replaced by the cast iron column, and the reinforced concrete column. The solid tree as a sidewall has been replaced with various types of siding, shingles, brick, stucco, and cement block, in innumerable combinations of materials and design.

Probably the two most important changes in construction have been in the use of structural steel, and

East Side of Main St., from Market to Near Mill, 1855. Note the O. & P. Canal and Lumber Wharf.

reinforced concrete. The Portland Cement industry in this country dates from 1872, yet it was not until the twentieth century that its diversified use was generally recognized. The first cement sidewalk, then called artificial stone, was laid in Akron in 1879, by H. A. Palmer, afterward president of the City Council. It is

estimated that in 1819 a million barrels of Portland cement were used in Akron.

With the change in the type of construction, there has taken place a change in the machinery and equipment used in erecting modern, commercial or industrial buildings. Visualize the method used in lifting one log upon another in the erection of a log cabin and compare it with the derrick, cranes and hoists now used in placing materials in our new City Hall. The balcony girder in the new Keith theatre now being erected on South High st., is eighty-five feet long and weighs forty-five tons.

It was not until the latter part of the nineteenth century that the so-called mechanical trades were required. The development of the sanitary conveniences in homes and hotels has seen a most remarkable change during the last half century. It is stated that the Conger house, "Irving Lawn," was the first house in Akron in which an enameled bath tub was installed.

Illumination in early days was by candle and natural sun light, through the oiled paper. The first electric light was installed on the lawn of the residence of John and James Christy across from the present University Club on Fir st. A traction engine was hooked onto a dynamo which created sufficient electricity for two arc lights which lighted the lawn for a church lawn fete.

The first residences were wired about 1890. The first insulated wire was made of hard rubber by Dr. Goodrich. The wire fastened directly on to the light bulb. This bulb is owned by Mr. Frank Loomis. The development of lighting equipment, fixtures and heating devices, has, during the past 35 years revolutionized this phase of illumination in the home, factory and theatre.

The plaster in a house owned and built by Harry

Baughman in 1872 is still in good condition. Plastering contractors have discovered lath made of ¼ inch hickory boards which had been split and nailed to the studding. This method of making lath is analogous, in a crude way, to the system adopted in the manufacture of expanded metal lath today.

At one time a lime kiln was located on Orleans av., in which limestone brought from Cleveland was burned and used in conjunction with sand and hair in what was known as lime mortar. Practically all plastering contractors recall when the patent plaster mortar now used was first manufactured.

The building of Akron, its homes and its industries, has been greatly facilitated by the presence in Akron of manufacturing plants devoted to the production of building materials. In 1875 J. C. Ewars & Company established a roofing tile works. The manufacture of brick from its most primitive stage was developed in Akron. Today, as during the past, local brick and tile plants including the Camp Bros. Company, The Windsor Brick Company and the L. W. Camp Company, manufacture a very large proportion of the brick and tile used in Akron buildings. The brick produced in Akron are hard shale brick which are superior to those manufactured in practically any other section of the country. Two local brick plants now have a capacity of over 175,000 brick per day.

The establishment of the Burger Iron Company in 1891, The Ornamental Iron Company in 1906, and the Portage Iron & Wire Company in 1916, has made readily available for Akron buildings, iron and steel materials. Akron has been known as a center for the manufacture of furnaces in this country.

Practically all the early buildings, whether residential or commercial, were of frame construction. This type of structure and the method of heating, of neces-

sity used, undoubtedly made possible the three great fires which are reported more in detail in another section. The business part of ancient Akron was laid in ruins between the first of June and September, 1848, December, 1849, and February, 1851.

In 1852 the "Ohio Exchange," a three-story hotel building was completed. This was one of the first large brick structures. It was located at Main and Market sts., and was occupied by Dutham Northop of Medina.

The histories give very incomplete records relative to the business methods of those engaged in the building industry. It is known however, that during the "shin plaster" era, money was so scarce that one contractor erected a house on a lot north of the Baptist Church on South Broadway for which he received 40 brass clocks. The contractor in turn paid the lumber dealers, stone masons, carpenters, and others in clocks.

One of the first public buildings constructed of so-called fire-proof material was the early court house, the contract for which was entered into July 14, 1840, with Maj. Ithiel Mills of Akron.

Sibbons Saxton and his brother, Henry, built the stone jail which was constructed of huge blocks of sand stone. The method of bonding and mortaring these huge blocks of sand stone together, is indicated in the report that on the first night of the prison's use four prisoners pushed out one of the blocks and escaped.

The first school house was erected on Broadway in 1834. The high school, built in 1853, was a two-story brick building 50x70 feet. These reports indicate that about the middle of the century there was a transition in the type of construction of public buildings from frame to stone or brick.

In 1886 Akron built a new high school building

on South Forge st. Weary & Kramer were the architects. The general contract was awarded to Wilhelm and Schroeder of Akron on their bid of $78,672. The steam heating was awarded to John Robb on his bid of $11,433. The foundation walls were three feet thick, the stone basement walls 2½ feet thick and the brick walls 20 inches thick. It is stated that "the object of those interested was substantiability and practicability rather than ornamentation and show." A terra cotta tablet was installed which gave the names of the board members, the architect, and the contractor. This practice has been to a large extent abolished, but from a historical standpoint its value may be recognized. The history of the building of churches is very similar to that of other structures with the exception that they were among the first to be built of stone and brick.

Some comparison with these structures, built about the middle of the nineteenth century, may be made by visualizing some of the present day structures.

The Seiberling school was erected at Goodyear Heights in 1921, at a cost of approximately $675,-196.85. Accommodates 1600 children.

The King school was built in 1922 at a cost of approximately $255,605.39. Accommodates 760 children.

The West High school on Maple st., was built in 1913, at a cost of approximately $245,000. Accommodates at present 1600 students.

The Building Department of the City of Akron was not established until 1911. From 1901-1911 a record was kept of buildings erected in each ward, but no monthly or yearly reports are available. Evidence of the growth of the city and importance of building industry is presented in the report showing the total volume of building from 1911 to 1926:

1911	$ 3,584,597
1912	4,313,362

1913	$ 5,217,190
1914	4,041,015
1915	6,031,030
1916	12,826,536
1917	14,176,818
1918	4,113,235
1919	27,219,436
1920	20,347,625
1921	3,800,948
1922	4,550,538
1923	7,495,066
1924	8,837,420
1925	5,415,546*

*First four months.

The building of private residences as noted below indicates the rapid growth of the city as well as the importance of residential construction:

	Number Permits	Estimated Valuation
1911	1,138	$ 2,110,533
1912	1,436	2,812,310
1913	1,344	2,527,550
1914	859	1,884,800
1915	1,114	2,435,750
1916	2,687	6,275,895
1917	2,675	6,716,610
1918	598	1,732,115
1919	3,325	13,871,940
1920	947	4,694,535
1921	234	993,800
1922	337	1,652,005
1923	681	3,104,220
1924	1,128	5,124,910
1925	704	3,072,946*

*First four months.

With the development of the city there has arisen additional responsibilities upon our city officials. As previously reported fires were not infrequent and innumerable reports recount experiences of fallen chimneys and buildings demolished by storm. With the establishment of the building department there was adopted a building code for the purpose of protecting the public from fire and damage due to faulty construction.

The same responsibility has been recognized in the adoption of the city zoning ordinance which aims to protect the owners in the reasonable use of their property.

THE BUILDERS' EXCHANGE

The Builders' Exchange was organized as the Master Builders' Association in 1916. Its presidents have been: H. P. Moran, J. A. Haller, John Clemmer, Chas. M. Cott, A. A. Hilkert, Claude Wall, John E. Woodruff, and H. P. Cahill. It now includes 200 members representing practically every phase of building industry, including the following: Manufacturers of brick, tile, cement products, iron and steel materials; dealers for all classes of building materials and lumber; general, electrical, painting, plumbing, plastering and roofing contractors; financing and bonding institutions.

The purpose of the Exchange as laid down in the constitution is to promote integrity and good faith, to inculcate just and equitable principles of dealing, to acquire and disseminate valuable business statistics and information; to protect and encourage the building interests in Akron; and to enlarge the business views of those who may become members, to the end that membership in this Association shall be a reasonable assurance of skill, honorable reputation and reliability.

The board of directors is made up of representatives of eight trade associations, several of which have been organized for a quarter of a century, and at the present is constituted as follows: H. P. Cahill, Cahill Plumbing Co., president; A. J. Becker, Ornamental Iron Co., first vice president; Jas. Flower, Jr., Flower Mantel & Tile Co., second vice president; Frank A. Owen, Owen Cement Products Co., treasurer; Philip P. Gott, Builders' Exchange, secretary; directors at large: L. C. Huguelet, Akron Mirror & Glass Co., and W. W. Sharp, Mill & Mine Supply Co.; directors: Frank Owen, Cement Products Association; A. P. Jahant, Electrical Association; W. J. Porter, General Contractors' Association; Frank Wise, Lumber Dealers' Association; J. B. Gonder, Painters' Association; Claude Wall, Plumbers' Association; Wm. Pfeifle, Sheet Metal & Roofers' Association; A. R. Haley, Supply Dealers' Association.

The Builders' Exchange has interested itself in many civic enterprises as well as the large number of activities directly connected with the construction industry.

ARCHITECTS

The following is contributed by John F. Suppes:

About the city today we find a few good examples of architectural design that were executed in the early days of Akron, such early period works as the Sumner House of 1817, the Perkins residence of 1835 and the Merriman residence of about the same time. Proud would be the architects of those houses to know their work was recognized by their brethren a century hence. In those days the architect was generally the builder as well, so we find no specific listing of architects at that period, but records show that the professional architect did come into his own in this city as early as 1853 when Jacob Snyder, coming from Vermont, opened an office on South Broadway.

In 1870 W. H. Smith came from New Brunswick, N. S. and established himself on Forge street.

Following came Frank O. Weary in 1875, who was very successful in his practice, and in 1892 formed the partnership of Weary and Kramer. About this time we also find the names of William P. Guinther, Charles Henry, and A. J. Putnam.

Since that year there has been a number of additional practitioners, the list proves quite a few gone, but those practicing today include George Ball, John F. Bliss, Frank DeArment, Harry A. Brooker, J. Adam Fichter, Charles W. Frank, I. J. Goldston, Albert H. Good, Harold M. Glazier, Milton E. Harpster, Leroy W. Henry, William B. Helmkamp, Robert J. Kraus, Martin P. Lauer, Milton E. Murphy, Mellville C. Peck, J. Ellsworth Potter, T. Ralph Ridley, Fred R. Stenburg, John O. Somerville, John F. Suppes, Edwin D. Wagner, Herbert L. Wardner.

Travel and Adventure

By Edwin W. Brouse

THE Phoenicians were one of the earliest of commercial peoples. Their merchants and navigators travelled from Tyre and Sidon to all shores and harbors of the Mediterranean, and, it is said, they even reached the British Isles. The commerce of Akron has likewise impelled many of its citizens to seek out remote parts of the world, far distant markets and peoples, and to employ, at times, difficult and unusual methods of travel. It is true that in some of these travels, commerce has not been the immediate motive. The early settlers of Akron made pioneering trips to this locality, to determine its natural advantages for settlement, and, in later times, Akron citizens have travelled far to learn of conditions in other countries; but, in almost every case, commerce has either had its part in the inception of the trip, or has taken its benefits in the information obtained by the traveler.

A book could be written on the travels and adventures of Akron citizens. Each history of Akron has a wealth of material on this subject. Bierce has told of his own travels, from Connecticut to Ohio in 1817; of his journey, mostly on foot, from Athens, Ohio, through many of the southern states in the years 1822 and 1823, and of his arrival in Akron in 1825. He has also written of Amzi Atwater, who, while not a resident of Akron, had a story which is full of interest to everyone interested in the pioneer history of the Western Reserve, for he arrived at Conneaut in 1796 with the party of Moses Cleaveland, which had, as its objective, the location of the lines of the Western Reserve. Lane tells of his own wanderings from his

home in Connecticut, which he left in 1833, then as a "Yankee peddler," through Georgia and Alabama to New Orleans, and finally to Akron in 1835. Lane also describes his trip, overland to California, as a "forty-niner," also that of James Christy, Senior. Nearly all writers on Akron history have mentioned the horse-back trip of Major Miner Spicer, from Connecticut in 1810, to the present site of Akron, and, after being satisfied with what he found, of his trip with an ox team from Connecticut in the year following, bringing with him his cousin, Amos Spicer, and Paul Williams, who became the first settlers of that part of Akron which lay in Portage township. Many are the stories of adventure contained in the pages of Bierce, Lane, Perrin, Cherry, Doyle and Olin.

The writer of the present article can do no more, in the limited space allotted to him, than to select a few typical experiences, not hitherto mentioned by those who have written of the history of Akron. The incidents are five in number, relating to pioneering, journalism, prospecting, hunting, and air travel. All of these, excepting the first, relate to modern times.

The story of the pioneering trip goes back to 1817. Its importance lies in the fact that it illustrates that, for the most part, the early settlers of Akron did not choose this location in a haphazard manner. Spicer, Bierce, Lane, and many of their contemporaries travelled far and wide before settling here.

The experience of Jedediah Commins is typical. He first resided in Akron in 1834. On the organization of Akron as a village, in 1836, he was one of the six chosen as the first village trustees. He lived in Akron for many years, and held many positions of trust. He took a leading part in the separate organization of Summit county, in the choice of Akron as the county seat, and was one of the trustees of the

funds, raised by the citizens of Akron, to build the court house. Seventeen years before he made Akron his home, he made an extensive trip through the Central States. The following is an account of how some of the early settlers found their way to Ohio. It is Mr. Commins' account of his experiences.

"In May, 1817, I started on a tour to the west, with the intention of locating myself there, should I be suited with the country, and could dispose of my property in Lima" (New York).

"My father, who had arranged to meet me at Fort Harrison, about three miles up the Wabash from the present site of Terre Haute, in Indiana, went with me on the start, some thirty or forty miles toward Olean: as I was to go by water down the Allegheny and Ohio rivers: and he on horseback, across the country. We parted at Arkport, in Steuben county. He returned to Lima and I pursued my way to Olean: stopping over night at Angelica. At Olean, most persons emigrating to the west, built themselves cheap house boats: and took their families and furniture on board and floated down the river. On one of these boats I took passage. We laid up the first night at an Indian village called Broken Straw, where I slept in an Indian wigwam. The next night we stopped in an unbroken wilderness, when it came on to rain very hard all that night and part of next day, and those of us who had to camp out, the boat not being large enough to accommodate the whole, got most thoroughly drenched. The next day about noon, wet and cold, we arrived at the little town of Warren, situate at the confluence of the Chenango and Allegheny. It had been my expectation, on arriving at Olean, to ship myself on board a raft, where I could earn something as I went along; but the low stage of the water in the Allegheny, prevented rafts from going down. This rain, however,

had so raised the streams, that rafting, at once, became practicable. A lumberman, by the name of Parmele, had a raft, about twelve miles up the Chenango, all ready to float off by the first freshet. Among others, I engaged myself to him, and the next day we went, on foot, up the stream, to where the rafts lay (being several small ones to be united into a large raft on reaching the Allegheny) and brought them down to Warren, in doing which, it was necessary to pass over a mill dam about six feet high. This being my first introduction to rafting, I was interested to observe how the rafts would accommodate themselves to the curve of the water in going over the dam. It was curious to witness every part, as it passed the dam, taking the exact curve, and fitting itself to the water, apparently, as well as if it had been a sheet of India rubber. The motion, of course, was very rapid; and the curve produced by the fall, following the raft from one end to the other, occasioned in me a peculiar sensation, at the instant of passing the dam, not unlike that of a see-saw.

"This preliminary operation being accomplished, we rigged the small rafts into one, and started down the Allegheny. In due time we arrived at Pittsburgh, our destination, without special mishap or incident worthy of special notice,—a distance of about three hundred miles from Olean by the river.

"At Pittsburgh I remained near two weeks. I concluded to push on, and observing a raft coming down the Allegheny, I jumped onto it without the least ceremony, from a skiff I had procured to take me into the stream, trusting the raftsman would have no objection to carry me, either for my services or for pay. The owner and manager of the raft proved to be a very intelligent Quaker, who, at first, did not seem overjoyed at my unceremonious advent; but I soon

contrived to make myself useful, and his distant behavior underwent a radical change in the course of a few hours. I had provided myself with a book called "The Navigator," adapted specially to the navigation of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. My Quaker captain was entirely ignorant of the channel, and my book was his only guide. About twelve or fifteen miles below Pittsburgh, our raft ran fast aground, and could not be got off. On board of it were two other men, like myself, bound down the river. The place where the raft stuck was a wilderness, but, joining our forces, we three managed to get several small logs into the stream, which we crossed with others still smaller, and on top of all, we put some boards which had floated ashore from the raft, and thus constructed a new one, with which we put out into the stream the next day and floated down with the current.

"We had navigated this frail ship but a few hours, when we discovered a skiff, with three men on board, coming down the river. Resolving, if possible, to get on board the skiff, we hailed it and managed to get alongside. The party, however, positively refused to take on board more than *one* of us, and that, on condition that he should become a joint owner in the craft, by advancing his pro rata of the cost, and take his turn in rowing,—to all of which I cheerfully assented, and went on board. We proceeded very pleasantly and comfortably to Marietta, stopping at Steubenville and Wheeling on the way. Here my co-mates and fellow navigators, finding their affairs called them across the country, had no further need of our water craft; and, for a small sum, I became sole owner of ship and cargo—I was master, mate, and all hands.

"The next day, having provided myself a jug of milk, a few loaves of bread, a ham of dried venison, and some other 'sea stores,' I started alone down the

river. Thus provided, it was not necessary to stop until night-fall. I threw my craft into the middle of the stream, sometimes rowing for exercise—sometimes floating with the current—occasionally taking a nap —while my boat was quietly wafted along—generally stopping at some thrifty farm house, but sometimes lashing to an ark—going on board, and floating all night.

"At Cincinnati I fell in with several old acquaintances, pursuing the same route, with the same object in view, but had travelled faster than myself. The city then contained about six thousand inhabitants. Here I stopped for two days, but could not, for my life, see what was to make it a great city—nor can I now see any reason for its large increase."

After leaving Cincinnati, Mr. Commins visited Louisville, which had "a first class hotel, which Cincinnati had not." He then made a detour into the interior of Kentucky, again taking his skiff at the mouth of Salt river, and going down stream a short distance. He then decided to go across country, sold his "ship and tackle for a mere trifle, after having navigated the Ohio, as master, mate and all hands for nearly seven hundred miles, purchased a bit of a pony, and started across the country for Vincennes, on the Wabash. I passed through the town of Corydon, then the seat of government for the state of Indiana. The State House was a log shanty, and the public offices of the same description.

"Leaving Vincennes, I proceeded up the Wabash, still on horseback, to Fort Harrison, the rendezvous appointed with my father." After the arrival of his father they explored parts of Illinois and then started homeward. This trip is not described in detail—but was taken by an overland route. The trip ended in August.

In the year 1890, John A. Botzum, then in the early years of his journalistic career, started on a trip which, it is said, was the first of its kind. With only $250 in his pocket, he started from Akron, to circle the globe, mostly on foot. After tramping through England, Wales, Ireland, France, Germany, Switzerland and Italy, he took a boat across the Mediterranean. He again started to walk through the Holy Land, and Egypt, then went by boat to Ceylon, China, and Japan. He travelled steerage with five hundred Chinamen and fifty-two Japanese to San Francisco. He arrived in San Francisco with only $10 in his pocket. Some newspaper friends advised him to earn his way back to Akron by delivering lectures. He followed their advice and walked from San Francisco to Akron lecturing in cities, towns and hamlets. He arrived home after an absence of two years and a half. While in Egypt, he spent much time in the desert, accompanied only by a photographer named Rickalton, who later became famous for his pictures of the Russian-Japanese War. In company with Rickalton he scaled Cheops pyramid, spending the night on the top of the immense monument.

Rumors of a rich gold field attracted three Akron men to the west. In January, 1897, James Christy, Jr., Perry E. Tanner and A. T. Saunders arrived in Kingman, Arizona. Both Christy and Tanner had inherited the desire for adventure, for in the days of 1849 and 1852 the father of each had joined the gold rush to California. At Kingman the party was augmented by F. A. Barnes, reputed to be a mineralogist of ability, and a Mr. and Mrs. Rose, who were to be the cooks of the party.

Their supplies, including tents, and lumber with which to build boats, were loaded into a high-sided

wagon drawn by four horses, and the long trip northward to the Colorado started.

To the eastward lay the Cerbat Range. After eight days travel across the desert, they came to Sacramento Wash, at the Colorado river, eighteen miles below the Grand Canyon. Here, while building their boats they met Richmond and Galloway, who had just passed through the Grand Canyon in boats. These boats were battered and patched, and they bore mute evidence to the rough passage over rapid and rock. Richmond and Galloway were said to have been the first, after the Powell expedition, to have passed through the Grand Canyon in boats. Across the river lived a Swiss, Bonelli by name, and his English wife. Many years before, Brigham Young had lured them from their homes with lavish promise of the lands of Utah, but, in their trip across the desert, they lost faith in Young and his teachings, and on arriving at the Colorado, they established their home, and abandoned the Mormon religion. Here at the confluence of the Virgin river, Bonelli built a log hut, diverted the waters of the river, and irrigated the soil. In due time the stage line from Arizona to Utah passed his home, for here was the most practicable crossing between the Grand Canyon and Needles, and here Bonelli operated a ferry.

The Akron party made their next camp seven miles below Bonelli's. Here they found some traces of gold. Barnes said that lower down, at Vegas Wash, they would find sand which would assay seventy-five cents to the yard. When they were about to start, an Indian named Young Ike came from Bonelli's, and told the prospectors of the murder of two men a short distance down the river. Two prospectors had been shot by a half breed Indian named Frank Navarro, or "the Mouse." The sheriff of San Bernardino county, Cali-

fornia, was on his way to find the bodies, and, if possible, to capture the murderer. The Akron men joined the search. The bodies were found in a small canyon leading up from the river. The Indian had lured the miners from their camp on his promise to lead them to a rich copper deposit. In a narrow part of the canyon, the Indian had taken shelter behind a ledge of rock, while his victims had no means of escape, nor of cover from his rifle shots. Coffins were hastily constructed from the boats left behind by the dead prospectors, and after almost incredible toil, they were brought over the rocks of the canyon to the river. Galloway and Richmond each took one coffin in a boat, and thus the railroad was reached at Needles.

The Akron prospectors sunk many test holes at Vegas Wash, but found no trace of the valuable gold deposit. Barnes proved to be an impostor, and Saunders, Christy and Tanner, decided to make their way down the river to the railroad at Needles. This trip took them through the Black Canyon, where perpendicular walls rose from the very edge of the river hundreds of feet, and where their boat was whirled along through rapids and over falls. Once their boat hung on a rock at the edge of a falls and threatened to overturn, but, after great effort, the boat was freed and shot, with the current, to placid water below.

About six weeks after they left Kingman, this eventful trip ended at Needles.

In September, 1920, William E. Wright left Mombasa, British East Africa, for a hunt in the uplands. By the Uganda railroad the interior was reached. At Kajabe, about a mile above sea level, the hunt started. Fifty miles away, the snow capped summit of Mount Kenia, 16,000 feet high, could be seen. Accompanied by an explorer and hunter named Simpson, and with

a party of seventy natives, Wright went to the border of old German East Africa. The country here was ideal for hunting. It consisted of an elevated tableland intersected by numerous valleys, many of them a thousand feet deep. The expedition went through Masaliland, east of Lake Victoria Nyanza. To illustrate the abundance of game, Mr. Wright said that on coming around the foot of a ridge covered with dense bush, they looked over toward the east, and were able to distinguish, at one time, eleven kinds of animals, including Grant's gazelle, Thompson's topi, kongoni, gnu or wilderbeast, eland, impala, zebra, giraffe, steinbuck, lion and buffalo. At another time, in coming out of a ravine, they saw a herd of giraffe, twenty-six in number. At another time they saw a herd of zebra nearly three miles in length and one-fourth mile in breadth. As trophies of the hunt, which lasted about three and one-half months, Mr. Wright brought home specimens of many of the animals.

As this volume goes to press, the people of Akron are acclaiming the mighty deeds of W. T. Van Orman and his aide, C. K. Wollam, who, for the second time in consecutive years, in the balloon named "Goodyear III" have won the National Balloon Race. The 1925 race started from St. Joseph, Missouri. Five other balloons started, but one was so damaged in the inflation that it was withdrawn. Despite unfavorable weather conditions, Van Orman and his aide started about eight minutes after six in the evening of May first. Radio was used effectively, in laying out the course and in obtaining the latest weather observations. A light-weight, dry cell, receiving set was used. It worked well at tremendous distances because all ground interference was removed. The set weighed about seventeen pounds. After passing over Kan-

sas City, the balloonists were able to hear both Mrs. Van Orman's and Mrs. Wollam's voices from the Goodyear station at Cleveland. At this time the balloon was flying at about five thousand feet in the air. The balloon was heading in a southeasterly direction, was travelling about twenty miles an hour, and at midnight the temperature had sunk to fifteen degrees. At 10:55 Saturday morning, Van Orman received a weather report from Des Moines, which confirmed the balloonist's choice of the southeastern track. At noon they passed over Blue Mountain, Arkansas. From eight o'clock Saturday morning until six o'clock that night, they flew at an altitude of from twelve thousand to thirteen thousand feet. They did this in order to get more speed, and to take advantage of the more stable condition of the atmosphere. The temperature was around twenty degrees, so that the water which they carried froze, and also the sand which was used for ballast. Here, even the leather, fleece-lined, aviation tunics did not prevent the pilots from encountering severe discomfort from the cold, and, by reason of the rarified atmosphere, the oxygen-bottles were needed to help out the laboring lungs of the balloonists. Here, above most of the clouds, and in the bright sunlight, the gas expanded to its best lifting power. By means of glasses, an occasional glimpse of the ground, two miles below, might be seen through a rift in the clouds. When a higher cloud would shut off the warm rays of the sun, quick work was needed. As the balloon came in contact with the cold cloud mist, the sudden change in temperature would send the bag scooting downward, like a resilient ball bounced off the ceiling. Then precious ballast must be sacrificed, to stop the rush earthward.

That night they came down to an altitude of about three thousand feet, for after the sun goes down, the air currents are just as good close to the ground, and

they remained at this level until five o'clock the next morning. At eight-thirty, Saturday evening, they learned from the Willard Storage Battery station at Cleveland, that two contestants had been forced to land. At six o'clock Sunday morning, the ballast was getting low. They had started off with forty-two bags of sand and had only three bags left, and with the gas in the envelope nearly exhausted, it was evident that a landing would soon be unavoidable. By the smoke from chimneys below, and from the sounding balloons which they let down, they knew there was a gale blowing near the ground at about thirty-five miles an hour. Several times they came down, picking out a field on which to land, but the wind was so strong that they were unable to do so; and they were carried past the field and had to go up again. Finally, the drag rope caught in the bottom of a little pine forest. They bounced up and down on the top of the trees for about ten minutes, and thought they would have to deflate their balloon in the tree-tops. At last, the balloon drifted free, and they came down in an adjacent field, six miles south of Reform, Alabama, about nine o'clock Sunday morning, May the third.

This made the third national race won by Mr. Van Orman. The first was in 1919, the second in 1924 and the third in 1925. In the 1925 race, he won the Litchfield trophy. He now represents the United States in the International race, for the new James Gordon Bennett trophy, at Brussels. May success again attend him, and his aide, Wollam!

The Sources of History

By Oscar E. Olin, L. L. D.

SINCE the days of language development the great source of history is to be found in written records. What was noted at the time of happening—contemporary writings—while too close to give a good perspective, will usually be found accurate as to facts.

Official records, the king's secretary, court proceedures, the priestly chronicles, are most valuable as original sources. Not only official writings but private contracts and friendly letters are often of the greatest value to the historian.

We can reconstruct the life of buried nations by the ruins of their temples and public buildings, and the inscriptions upon tombs and cliffs and monuments. So are we reading the story of Egypt and Persia and Chaldea today. A clay tablet, a marble slab, a weapon or a coin—each has a meaning.

Oral tradition, folk lore, and the folk songs of a people embody much of their history.

The memory of the old is a rich storehouse of material. A connected memory of seventy years with a "My father has told me," make more than a hundred years of intimate knowledge. And tradition is made up of just such recollections, but seen through the haze of years.

All these the historian must gather and value and classify to make clear his story of the doings of men.

In writing the history of Akron we have the advantage of previous research. We have access to seven histories of Akron and Summit county, some of them by eye witnesses of the important events.

The first of these was a small volume, written by Gen.

L. V. Bierce and published in 1854 by Horace Canfield. In this he gives the history of every township in the county, at a time when the pioneers were still living to verify nearly all events. This work is of great value to the local historian, and its only fault is its brevity. It was republished in serial form by the "Times" in 1910.

Howe's History of Ohio in 1890 gives considerable space to Middlebury and Akron and Summit county. One gets a good idea of early Summit county in its connection with the rest of the state.

Perrin's History of Summit county comes next in 1881. This is a substantial volume with much valuable material concerning the whole county of Summit.

Next, and perhaps most important of all, is "Fifty Years of Akron and Summit County" by S. A. Lane, who came into Akron in 1835 and was part of its history for the next seventy years. His book, which is a mine of facts, interestingly told, was published in 1892.

A finely executed "Portrait and Biographical Record of Portage and Summit Counties" was issued in 1898 by the A. W. Bowen Co. This is an extensive work and gives much valuable information of both the early and later days.

Mrs. Harriet Taylor Upton's History of the Western Reserve in three volumes has put into enduring form many of the facts of the settlement and development of the Connecticut lands, of which Summit county is a part.

In 1908 William B. Doyle, Mayor of the City of Akron, published a Centennial History of Summit county which carried Lane's history twenty years farther on. All of this time Akron was making history faster than it was recorded.

The latest history "Akron and Environs" was written by O. E. Olin of the University of Akron, and published in 1917 by the Lewis Publishing Co., of Chicago.

There are thus seven published works that are accessible to the student of Akron's history.

Next in importance to the printed histories are the newspaper files which go back within a few years of the founding of the city.

Then there are court records, and transfers of land, from the Connecticut Draft to the present time.

Of great interest also are the occasional articles in newspaper and magazine by such men as Cherry, Braden and Botzum and the earliest pictures of the city. There are occasionally found journals or diaries of the pioneers where things are set down as they daily shaped themselves, and these are of utmost value.

Another and a great source, is the family history of the chief actors in Akron's growth. There are still living here the descendants of many of the City's pioneer men of business—the Perkins', Spicers, Kings, Howards, Sumners, Seiberlings, Howers, Millers, Schumachers, Hills, Robinsons, Howes, Crouses, Buchtels, Halls, and many others. These can give the connnected story of fifty or seventy-five years.

The lately formed Summit County Historical Society has already entered upon plans for gathering up all this material and putting it into enduring form and classifying and filing for future references. When this is well under way we hope the Historical Society will be of great help to those who would become better acquainted with the history of the city and county.

These, then, are the sources of our local history and all of them have been laid under tribute by those who have written the story of our hundred years.

The Centennial Celebration

By Mayor D. C. Rybolt

IT IS difficult to state, with any degree of certainty, just when and where or under what specific circumstances it was first suggested that Akron hold a Centennial celebration. One cannot point definitely to any particular group of persons or to any specific event and say here the idea had its inception. And I do not believe that it is essential to do so. It is sufficient to know that the Centennial is here. Here with all its pageantry and grandeur; with all its beauty and gaiety; with all its tribute to things past, and faith in things to come.

During the summer of 1924, when the first definite steps were taken toward celebrating Akron's one hundredth birthday, few of us realized the great and varied amount of detail which had to be handled if we were to have a celebration worthy of the name and one which would do justice to the picturesque historic background that Akron possesses. It was at first thought that all necessary matters could be taken care of by a few committees, who might be able to give a few minutes each day to the work.

With this thought in mind, it became my privilege to name a committee of seven men and women, who were known to possess an active civic interest and who, because of their long residence in the city, were familiar with much of the history and development of the community. This committee became known as the executive or general committee. It was their duty to draw up the general plans for the celebration. They were the ones who would have to decide just what should be included and what should be excluded. The

success or failure of the Centennial would depend to a large extent upon their efforts.

In the fall of 1924 the first meeting of the executive committee was held in my office. By virtue of my position as mayor, it was thought advisable that I should also become chairman of the executive committee. The next meeting was held two weeks later at which general plans were discussed and each member of the committee was requested to submit a list of suggestions as to the best general plan to be followed in conducting the celebration.

The scope of the Centennial was broadening. It soon became apparent that it would be necessary to appoint other committees to assist in working out the many details. A few old relics and a float or two would not satisfy the enthusiasm which was being injected into the Centennial. Akron was a large and flourishing city, a progressive city whose citizens demanded a real celebration, one which in after years could be looked back upon with pride; one which was worthy of depicting the romance of Akron.

As a result, two more committees were appointed to work in connection with the executive committee. One of these was the program committee, which was instructed to make a survey of the programs and plans followed by other cities who had held similar celebrations. They were also asked to make a study of any conditions in Akron which might have a bearing on the Centennial program. The second, or historical committee, was charged with the duty of gathering and compiling data which would be interesting from an historical standpoint. It was at this stage that the suggestion of appointing a business manager, who could devote all of his time to the Centennial, was given consideration. Everyone felt by this time that the Centennial was too important an affair to be slighted or put on a part-time basis.

It now became the duty of the executive committee to search the field for a man who possessed the necessary qualifications for handling a celebration of such magnitude as Akron was planning. He must first of all be a good organizer; he must possess exceptional executive ability and he must have the capacity for handling an infinite amount of detail. About the middle of February a man was discovered who met with the approval of the members of the executive committee, E. E. Helm, a resident of Akron and one who was able to meet all of the qualifications.

Mr. Helm took active charge of the Centennial on March 1st. Quarters were found in the Akron Savings & Loan Building. A secretary and stenographer were appointed and the Centennial was now actively on its way in a practical and entirely businesslike manner. Mr. Helm put all of his enthusiasm into the work, as did Charles W. Wickline, who became his assistant.

And it was not a difficult task to interest Akron people. As soon as it became known that the Centennial was going to be big enough to include everyone, the great awakening began. From every palatial mansion or humble cottage, people expressed an eagerness to have a share in the event. From North Akron and South Akron; from East Akron and West Akron, people poured into Centennial headquarters and wanted to know in what manner they could be the most helpful. I think that I am correct in stating that such splendid sentiments and active co-operation from every source is responsible for the success of this Centennial.

Centennial celebrations, like any other celebration worth while, cost money. The problem of raising funds necessary to carry out the program here was one which had to be faced squarely. The finance committee, which had been appointed shortly after the or-

ganization of the executive committee, started work immediately in devising ways and means for raising this money. They went about it in a businesslike and straightforward manner which soon received the confidence and active support of men, women, and organizations who were best able to assist financially in carrying out the plans.

Perhaps one of the most enthusiastic meetings ever held in connection with Centennial work took place at the City Club late in February. Approximately 125 of Akron's industrial leaders and financiers attended this meeting. Edward S. Babcox, chairman of the program committee, outlined the general plans which the celebration would follow. They were approved unanimously. Francis Seiberling, chairman of the finance committee, submitted a budget of $53,000, as the minimum amount necessary to carry out the program as outlined. Many marveled that a program of such magnitude could be had at the amount asked for. It was then explained that by the sale of souvenirs and display booths and by the publication of a Centennial magazine, considerable revenue might be derived. In this event it might not require the entire $53,000. Should this be the case the money left over in the treasury, after all bills were paid, would be returned pro-rata to the subscribers. The fairness of this plan appealed to all of these men and women. One after another they arose and pledged themselves as willing to do their share. And everyone kept that pledge; merchants, business men, professional men and leaders in the industrial field, all contributed to the cause, with a willingness that speaks well of Akron's civic spirit.

But essential as money is to the accomplishment of an enterprise of this kind, it is not everything. Other sacrifices had to be made, both in time and ef-

fort. Akron men and women responded as loyally in this respect as they had in every other. One fine demonstration of this spirit of co-operation was shown by the hearty response to appeals for suggestions. It was realized that there were hundreds of people in our city, not as yet closely connected with Centennial affairs, who could furnish many excellent ideas. Men and women, who had been present at celebrations in other cities and had brought back with them many interesting details. Others who had never seen a Centennial celebration but through their own originality were able to contribute many ideas which subsequently became a part of our program. By this time thousands of residents from Summit county and indeed from other counties and even other states were beginning to learn of Akron's plans. They had relatives and friends here, perhaps they themselves were at one time residents of our city. They were interested.

In addition to all this, Akron must be decorated as never before. Her reputation as a progressive city, her reputation as a city where they do things and do them right, was at stake. Everything must be in first-class shape and this meant more work for everyone. And everyone responded. Akron is already taking on a gala aspect. Store fronts are being cleaned, streets already in excellent condition are being inspected to make sure that there is nothing lacking. It will be a wonderful celebration.

For five days the romance connected with the founding and development of our city will be depicted in beautiful floats and pageants; mammoth parades; gorgeous decorations and costumes; historical and industrial exhibits. In fact, everything which might contribute to the beauty, gaiety and splendor of the occasion will be here. And then the commemoration of Akron's first hundredth birthday, like the picturesque events depicted therein, will pass into history.

It will have been our privilege to have witnessed many scenes in connection with the struggles, sacrifices and labors of those early settlers, who made it possible for the people of the present generation to enjoy the Akron of today. Canal-boat days, with all their hazards and romance, have been recalled to our minds. Many of the details which we have witnessed will soon be forgotten but in looking back over the past hundred years, there are many things which we will not forget. The vision, courage and industry of those former men and women of Akron, whose progressiveness and foresight have made Akron a leader in industrial lines, have taught us how we too may progress and develop by the same noble principles. We have but to study the causes which have made our city develop so rapidly and, guided thereby, reconsecrate ourselves to the same high ideals of community spirit and patriotic citizenship, and we will move forward during the next hundred years in such a way as to make Akron even more truly a "City of Opportunity."

THE CENTENNIAL HISTORY

This volume must speak for itself. The original plan to publish a book to be sold at a moderate price and written in a popular, rather than profoundly historical vein, and which has been adhered to, was adopted because it appeared to be what the occasion really demanded; and because no more pretentious work could be produced within the limit of time. Contributors have had little opportunity for research and restricted space has necessitated the omission of much material. It may be too much to hope that error has not crept in, for the whole time available was, unfortunately, far less than a work of this character really requires. The art panel in miniature used as a decoration of the title page is from a design by Miss Frances Swan, a student of

Akron University, which was awarded first honors in the students' contest for a sketch symbolizing the Centennial. The cover design of the history is by R. H. Griffiths. As indicating the individual identities of those who have contributed to the writing of this history, the following will be of interest:

MRS. J. M. ALLEN (Ada E. Rowe)—Born Wadsworth, Ohio. Resident of Akron since childhood. Graduate of and for five years a teacher in Akron schools. Twice Regent of Cuyahoga Portage Chapter, D. A. R.

HUGH ALLEN—Born Washington, C. H., Ohio; in newspaper work following graduation from University of Michigan, 1906; managing editor Akron Beacon Journal, 1914-1920; now manager publications, Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.

REV. GEORGE P. ATWATER, D. D.—Native of Ohio; resident of Akron since 1897; rector of the Church of Our Saviour, (Episcopal); graduate of Kenyon College, 1895, of Bexley Hall, 1898; received degree Doctor of Letters from University of Akron, 1924.

DR. HERBERT WALTER BARTON—Born in Akron; graduate University of Michigan, 1901. In practice of dentistry in Akron since 1901.

JAMES V. BLAKE—Native of Maryland, resident of Akron since 1898; graduate Kenyon College, 1900. Since with Goodrich and Goodyear companies, and now a broker in crude rubber in Akron.

JANE BATES BOWMAN—Native of Akron. Graduated from Akron public schools and after two years at Buchtel College, entered the Second National Bank. Still with its successor, The First Trust & Savings Bank.

JOHN A. BOTZUM—Native of Summit county; resident of Akron since 1887; in newspaper, editorial and advertising work. Now with Akron Times-Press.

JAMES A. BRADEN—Native of Trumbull county. Resident of Akron and Cleveland since 1893, in newspaper, advertising and sales capacities. Now with Commercial Printing & Lithographing Company, Akron.

EDWIN W. BROUSE—Native of Akron. Graduate Oberlin, 1901, and Columbia University, New York, 1905. Now of the law firm, Commins, Brouse, Englebeck & McDowell.

RALPH C. BUSBEY—Native of Chicago; resident of Akron since 1919. Formerly managing editor of Springfield Ohio Daily Sun; also manager Akron editorial bureau of Cleveland Plain Dealer. Now vice president and editor India Rubber Review. Grandson of Wm. T. Coggeshall, early Akron newspaper publisher.

H. KARL BUTLER—Native of Akron. Educated in public schools and Buchtel College. For several years in plantation management in Cuba. Now interested in investments and Boy Scout movement.

ALMON B. CANNON—Native of Portage county. Resident of Akron since 1909. Since 1910, has been assistant secretary of the Akron Chamber of Commerce.

WILLIAM S. CHASE, A. M., M. D.—Resident of Akron since birth. Graduate of Princeton University and the University of Michigan. Actively interested since 1901 in Akron's medical, health and hospital problems.

SUSANNAH C. COLE—Native of Cuyahoga Falls. Resident of Akron since 1863; graduate Jen-

nings High School and Buchtel College. For many years teacher in Buchtel Academy and Central High School.

JESSE P. DICE—Born Akron. Graduate Ohio State University. Private Company F, 10th O. V. I. Spanish American War. Rank of Major, Field Artillery Central Officers Training School, Camp Taylor, in World War. Now Lieutenant Colonel F A Res. In law practice in Akron since 1899.

HERMAN FETZER—Born Maple Valley, (now a part of Akron). Graduate Akron public schools. Now column conductor for Akron Beacon Journal Contributor to national periodicals.

JOHN C. FRANK—Native of Stark county. Graduate University of Michigan; admitted to practice of law, 1886, and has practiced continuously in Akron since that date. Present firm, Frank & Ream.

WALTER FRYE—Native of Holmes county; resident of Akron since 1919, in public school work. Graduate Wooster College, 1909. Now instructor in physics and physiography, Central High School, Akron.

PHILLIP P. GOTT—Native of Lorain county; graduate Oberlin College and Columbia University. In public secretarial work since 1916. Secretary The Builders' Exchange, Akron, since 1919. Also, now secretary Ohio Association of Builders' Exchanges.

HENRY M. HAGELBARGER—Resident of Akron since 1892; official stenographer of Summit county, 1892-1899; admitted to bar 1897; prosecuting attorney, 1902 to 1909. Appointed director of law of the City of Akron, 1920, which office he still fills.

EDWARD S. HARTER—Born Ohio; resident of Akron since boyhood; newspaper reporter and editor,

1890-97. Publisher Akron Times, 1897-1916; now in publicity and advertising work.

E. E. HELM—Centennial business manager. Born Washington, D. C. Newspaper work in Washington and elsewhere. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, 1916-1920. Manager Industrial Bureau Akron Chamber of Commerce, 1920-23.

WILLIAM A. JOHNSTON—Native of Greensburg, Pa. Engineer and resident manager of The Barberton Land and Improvement Company from 1890 to 1915. Now engineer and owner of industrial developments, manufacturing and residence properties in the Akron district.

KARL KENDIG—Native of Richland county; resident of Akron since 1883; reporter on Akron and Cleveland papers, 1890-1894; salesman for Werner Company, 1894-1910; with Whitman & Barnes Manufacturing Company, 1910, to date, now as secretary and assistant treasurer.

GEORGE M. MYERS—Native of Cincinnati; resident of Akron since 1904; physical director of Y. M. C. A., since 1904. Served on Recreation commission eight years, Boxing commission four years.

OSCAR E. OLIN—Native of Portage county; resident of Akron since 1898. Teacher A. M., Kansas State Agricultural College, 1896; L. L. D. Municipal University of Akron, 1920. Professor of philosophy and sociology, University of Akron.

MARY PAUL—Native of Akron; graduate Central High School; with Paul Brothers, civil engineers and surveyors, 1900-1913; in charge tax map department of Summit county since 1913; county recorder elect.

HARRY S. QUINE—Native of Akron. Service in Cuba, Spanish-American War. Newspaper work in

Akron, 1899-1909. State commander Spanish-American War Veterans, 1912-13. Advertising manager Diamond Rubber Company, 1909; publicity manager Goodyear, 1910-21; now in similar work for General Tire & Rubber Company.

D. C. RYBOLT—Born Milford, Clermont county, Ohio. Graduate Ohio Wesleyan University. Principal Akron Central High School, 1900-1917; manager Rybolt Heater Company; mayor of Akron 1921-23, then elected mayor-manager.

LAURINE WANAMAKER SCHWAN, (Mrs. Ernest H.)—Daughter of the late Judge R. M. Wanamaker and Mrs. Wanamaker. Attended University of Akron; (member of Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority) and Washington College. Interested in literature and drama; has written several plays and various book reviews for Cleveland Plain Dealer and Akron Topics. Vice president Akron Civic Drama Association; member St. Cecilia Musical Club.

CARL D. SHEPPARD—Native of Vinton county; resident of Akron 1900-1902 and 1917 to date; in newspaper work, Akron and Washington 1900-1917. Graduate Ohio University and George Washington University Law School. Member of law firm, Otis, Beery and Sheppard.

GEORGE W. SHERMAN—Born Fall River, Mass.; resident of Akron since 1901; graduate Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1894; with Diamond Rubber Company and B. F. Goodrich Rubber Company in technical and executive capacities to 1920. President and manager Akron Industrial Salvage Company, started as a conservation movement during World War.

A. I. SPANTON—Born Sunderland, County Durham, England; resident of Akron since 1893. Gradu-

ate Buchtel College, 1899; A. M. Harvard University, 1905; assistant principal, Buchtel Academy, 1900-1904; professor of English, Buchtel College since 1913.

VINCENT S. STEVENS—Born Chicago, Ill.; resident of Akron since 1908, secretary of Akron Chamber of Commerce; assistant secretary of the Detroit Board of Commerce before coming to Akron, and in reportorial and editorial work on Detroit newspapers.

ELIZABETH A. THOMPSON—Native of Scotland; resident of Akron since 1885. Head of history department and dean of women in University of Akron.

CLAUDE KING TRAXLER—Born in Akron and a resident of Akron and Stow since 1883; graduate Central High School, 1901. Now secretary Akron Real Estate Board.

HERBERT A. TOWNSLEY—Born Kansas; back to Indiana in the "covered wagon;" graduate of Vincennes; resident of Akron since 1902, with Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, secretary Akron Automobile Club, and president of Franklin Sales & Service Company.

ORLANDO WILCOX—Native of Medina county; resident of Cuyahoga Falls since 1884 at which time he began practice of law in the same town where his father of the same name began practice of medicine in 1828. Has been in Cuyahoga Falls and Akron in practice of law since 1884, except for two years as United States attorney in Indian territory.

WILLIAM E. YOUNG—Born in Holmes county; resident of Akron since 1892; two years in newspaper work and since in practice of law; mayor of city from 1897 to 1901; now of the law firm Slabaugh, Young, Seiberling, Huber and Guinther.